Reviewer's report

Title: Operational Research in Malawi: making a difference with cotrimoxazole preventive therapy in patients with tuberculosis and HIV

Version: 3 Date: 15 July 2011

Reviewer: Jeremiah Chakaya

Reviewer's report:

The authors have sufficiently responded to the comments made in the earlier review. It is noted that new funding to the NTP from UK's DFID (in 1996) provided a source of funds for not conducting "usual" NTP activities but also for the conduct and promotion of programme based operations research. This was critical and I am glad that this has now been highlighted.

It is also noted that the policy entrepreneurs have been "defined" and their role described.

I am satisfied with the responses provided and have no further comments

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests