Reviewer’s report

Title: Addressing inequity to achieve the maternal and child health Millennium Development Goals: looking beyond averages

Version: 4 Date: 20 November 2012

Reviewer: Zulfiqar A Bhutta

Reviewer’s report:

The revisions are acceptable but the authors have missed the point of seeking the clarification on how they used LiST. Since LiST uses cause-specific mortality effects and impact, since they used all cause effects, how did they actually implement the model? how were the deaths distributed across SES quintiles from the DHS data set? were these adjusted or unadjusted? This level of transparency is needed.

The Carrera MBB paper referred to was meant to provide a comparison of methods and conclusions as well as an explanation for observed difference...

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

No competing interests