Reviewer’s report

Title: Systematic Review of Diarrhea Duration and Severity in Children and Adults in Low- and Middle-Income Countries

Version: 1 Date: 5 February 2012

Reviewer: Mark Pietroni

Reviewer’s report:

The article is timely and of importance. Many countries have successfully reduced diarrhoea associated mortality but not enough is known about the impact of diarrhoea associated morbidity. This article is an important contribution to the debate.

The article is well written and the quality of English is excellent; the figures and tables are clear.

(Discretionary Revision) The explanation about the construction of a 'diarrhoea envelope' moves rapidly even for a statistically literate reviewer. A figure, diagramme or other explanation about how this was constructed (as opposed to the conclusions which are clearly expalined) would be useful.

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:

I declare that I have no competing interests.