Reviewer's report

**Title:** Interventions to reduce neonatal mortality from neonatal tetanus in low and middle income countries - a systematic review

**Version:** 4  **Date:** 6 November 2012

**Reviewer:** ameer malik

**Reviewer's report:**

major compulsory revisions:

exclusion criteria is not in consonance with the objective of the study. in the first point of exclusion criteria, it has been written that studies which do not have strategies to reduce the neonatal mortality will be excluded. it should be clearly the studies which do not have described the starategies to reduce neonatal mortality due to neonatal tetanus. furthermore the authors have excluded the studies which have been performed in the developed countries. it is not realistice as any study which has recommended intervention to reduce the mortality due to neonatal tetanus should be included. 4 studies have been exluded as authors/abstract were not available. they should be searche.

In the section for the results and discussion, in the second heading of community based interventions, the authors have included the measures which are not directly linked with the neonatal tetanus like new born resuscitation and exclusive breast feeding. the authors are not adhering to the objective of the study i.e., neonatal tetanus. they deviate to the overall neonatal mortality. similarly in the subsection of antenatal care and safe delivery practices the authors are not adhering to their objective of reducing neonatal mortality due to neoatal tetanus. rather they are discussing overall neonatal mortality.

iron and folic acid supplimentation has got no relationship with the neonatal tetanus mortality.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance 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'