Reviewer's report

Title: Making efforts to reduce the heterosexual transmission of HIV/STDs: The Global Fund AIDS Program in Shandong province, China.

Version: 2 Date: 1 February 2013

Reviewer: Lakshmi PVM

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Major Compulsory Revisions:
1) It is always better to provide some information about the baseline data on HIV and syphilis prevalence or sexual behaviors before intervention in both the intervention and non intervention areas. Without this, one can not conclude the higher knowledge and better condom use rates in the intervention area are because of intervention as the difference might have existed between both the areas even before intervention.
2) There can be social desirability bias in the responses provided by the participants especially in the intervention areas as they are more aware of the positive behaviors for preventing HIV/AIDS even though might not actually practicing them. May be the HIV testing rates obtained from the Program data may be compared between the intervention and non intervention areas to support the data obtained by participant interviews.
3) What was the non response rate of the study? Was there any difference in the sociodemographic characteristics or risk behaviors among participants and non participants?
4) Did all the participants who agreed for the study provided consent for HIV testing?

Minor Essential Revision:
1) Selection of study sites: It should be cluster random sampling rather than random cluster sampling.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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.