Reviewer's report

Title: Maternal and perinatal mortality by place of delivery in sub-Saharan Africa: A meta analysis of population-based cohort studies.

Version: 2 Date: 25 August 2014

Reviewer: Paul Freeman

Reviewer's report:

This is a well written and presented detailed meta-analysis. The process and procedures that the authors followed is clear and thorough. Language and statistics appear of suitable quality to me. The problems of doing this type of meta-analysis are clearly presented. The discussion is well balanced. The importance of selection bias is discussed with regards to those mothers who deliver in a health facility being more likely to have severe complications. However, surely this bias is of such import that it should be mentioned in the final conclusions made.

Revisions

1) Selection bias in favor of mothers with more complications delivering in a health facility Is such that this factor should be mentioned in the conclusions section not just the discussion.

2) Correction of several small misspellings.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I have no competing interests.