Reviewer’s report

Title: BCG coverage and barriers to BCG vaccination in Guinea-Bissau: an observational study

Version: 1 Date: 23 August 2014

Reviewer: Abbas Bhuiya

Reviewer’s report:

General
This is an interesting paper with high level of relevance for delivering BCG vaccination. Paper is reasonably well written.

Specific (mandatory)
1. It is unclear from the paper whether the national programme delivers BCG vaccines at facilities or at home of children. If at home what is the frequency of visits? If at the facilities how often these facilities are open? Everyday or others?

2. It is clearly stated that the national programme had restricted vial opening policy of not to open a vial if there is less than 10 children. Presumably it is far less likely to get 10 or more children at a household than at a facility. Thus it is unclear how increased frequency of household visits in the intervention area, monthly visits, will ensure 10 children for vaccination or in other words what was done with the restricted vial opening policy in the intervention area?

Evaluation of factors associated with delayed BCG vaccination included demand side factors only, eg household and individual characteristics, how about supply side factors other than restricted vial opening policy?

3. Presentation results
It may be more informative to include overall significance of factors’ association with BCG coverage in the tables in addition to OR and CI in relation a reference category.

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:
No conflict of interest.