Reviewer's report

Title: A community-based prospective cohort study of exclusive breastfeeding in central Nepal

Version: 1 Date: 18 June 2014

Reviewer: Sarah McDonald

Reviewer's report:

BF Nepal review

This is a well-written cohort of BF and cohort literature is rare in BF, the variables were well-defined with appropriate use of HR for analysis.

However, a few major methodological concerns exist:

1. 1 abstract:
   a. use of n=639 could be misleading given only 515 at 22 mo
2. please justify why rural vs urban was the main variable of interest
3. the objective (p. 4) and the outcome table (3) do not match.
   a. The obj refer to Exclusive BF, but Table 3 refers to cessation of BF
4. The STROBE guidelines were not mentioned
5. the study design (p.4) says ‘pregnant’ women of 5 months or more G.A. but the Table T2 says at birth, as does Figure 1
6. For the first sentence of the results section, please start by providing the typical data for a cohort study, including both n and and percents for each stage of the cohort
7. Discussion:
   a. 1st sentence is not in the Results (98 % BF to 6 mo)
   b. ii) please avoid restating the results (e.g. para 2on p. 9)
   c. iii) please add a limitations section, including loss to f/u
   d. putting this study in the context of cohort literature would be important

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests