Reviewer's report

Title: Maternal near-miss and mortality in Sayaboury Province, Lao PDR.

Version: 3 Date: 21 August 2014

Reviewer: Pakhee Aggarwal

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for modifying the methodology to make it more descriptive. It has the potential to be a great study.

Just few small reservations:

1. What about the month of January? Were there any near misses or mortalities in that month that went unaccounted for, i.e. amongst ectopic pregnancies, abortions etc?

2. ‘During February – November 2011, at communities information of pregnancy outcomes, and clinical criteria for the assessment of organ system dysfunctions, such as respiratory rate of more than 40 or less than 6 bpm, etc. were’ What is less then 6bpm referring to?

3. There should be a table or sample CRF appended to the article to describe the exact criteria that were being looked for. This is the backbone of the study data and should be elaborated in more detail.

4. Pg10-11 – sentence follow through?

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

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