Reviewer’s report

Title: Integrating national community-based health worker programmes into health systems: a systematic review identifying lessons learned from low- and middle-income countries

Version: 3 Date: 18 July 2014

Reviewer: Johanna Hanefeld

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Minor Essential Revisions

This is a great and very meticulously done paper. Congratulations. You clearly have done a great deal of very meticulous work.

A couple of small comments. I would reference a health systems framework in that section of the paper.

Main comment though, based on your findings re integration of CHW, could you speak a bit to the bigger questions surrounding them? Not just on integration but their role whether they are the answer or not, what will happen with these programmes as they mature. You have digested teh literature to answer your question but some further reflections in the conclusion would be nice. Also any reflection on research frameworks you would think helpful to understanding and exploring this, such as health systems as complex and adaptive systems would be really interesting to hear.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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 interest