Reviewer's report

Title: Use of Formative Research in Developing a Knowledge Translation Approach to Rotavirus Vaccine Introduction in Developing Countries

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Reviewer: Peter Winch

Reviewer's report:

Review of manuscript for BMC Public Health by Evan S Simpson and colleagues
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All revisions are suggested, not mandatory
1. Background section is very clear. It would be good to have some statistics on the status of introduction of rotavirus vaccines worldwide: How many countries are considering introduction, taking the first steps toward introduction etc.?
2. It would be good to summarize the differences in results from the qualitative interviews across the countries in a table. The table should also include under-five mortality rates for each country, as under-five mortality was linked to perceptions of the importance of diarrhoeal diseases in the paper.
3. P9: Is it correct that ORS has no effect at all in preventing dehydration from rotavirus infection? Its effect may be insufficient, or administration may be problematic in a child with profuse watery diarrhea, but it is not true that it is ineffective.
4. P9: Change it's potential to its potential.
5. The discussion section is well-written. However the emphasis was on recommendations rather than on interpretation of the data. Many of the recommendations seem to flow out of other work the authors have carried out, rather than from the specific results presented in this manuscript. It would be good to see the discussion and recommendations relate more directly to the findings presented. For example, the authors could present their hypotheses for why the situation is the way it is: Why is diarrhea a low priority (some was said but more could be said), why do people see water and sanitation as causally linked to all cases of diarrhea etc. Regarding the priority assigned to diarrhea, the authors might discuss the effect of the discontinuation of WHO's CDD program and its integration into the IMCI program, the lack of consistent interest in diarrheal diseases over the past 15 years on the part of WHO, UNICEF, the World Bank and other organizations, and the emphasis in funding on malaria, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis through the Global Fund, PEPFAR, the Presidential Malaria Initiative, etc.

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

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 interests' below