Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Factors affecting Awareness about Emergency Contraception among College Students of Kathmandu, Nepal

**Version:** 1 **Date:** 31 July 2009

**Reviewer:** Margareta Larsson

**Reviewer’s report:**

**Major Compulsory Revisions**

1. The method section must be improved.
   a) the sample, how many students were not present on the day of data collection?
   b) the instrument needs to be presented, how many questions, what kind of questions? How were questions about EC formulated? Did they include both awareness of EC and of ECP?
   c) the procedure; how was the questionnaire filled in? By the students themselves or by interviewers?

2. Language needs to be checked.

**Minor Essential Revisions**

1. The introduction could be shortened; "unprotected intercourse and contraceptive failure" encompasses if a woman has forgotten to take her pill. No need to repeat "when a regular method fails..." in the second para. The para about unintended pregnancies could be shorter and focus on Asia and Nepal only. The last para of the introduction could also be shorter and more focused. Strategy for reducing unintended pregnancy and unsafe abortion is repeated twice.

2. Women use EC, not couples.

3. EC is emergency contraception, including ECP and insertion of an IUD. ECP is emergency contraceptive pills and does not include IUD insertion. Check for accuracy.

   for example in the second para of the introduction. If the abbreviation EC is to be used, use it consistently.

4. The "general tendency in investigations" is supported with one reference only. Include references from other settings, there are many studies to choose from.

5. Results; Why are only data related to men presented in the first para? Rewrite and include women also.

6. Awareness of HIV/AIDS was not the aim of the study and is not presented in any table. Delete!

7. Discussion; The study looked only at awareness of emergency contraception.
Clarify!
8. The sentence starting with "Emergency contraception is most useful..." could be deleted.
9. Why would permanent residents have fewer friends than those from the outside?
10. What is meant by "students are more likely to be sexually active at a young age and are less well informed..."? More likely than other young people? Or more likely than older people? Less well informed than who? These statements need to be rewritten and supported with references.
11. Table 1 includes data on mass media exposure. This is not mentioned anywhere in the text and it is not clear what it means. Delete from the table or include explanation in the text.

Discretionary Revisions
1. Figure 1 could be deleted. Data is presented in tables and in text.
2. I would like to know more about RH education in Nepal. Is there a national curriculum? When is it provided and by whom? This is important in the light of the findings that it seemed to be the most important explanatory factor for EC awareness.

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

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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