Reviewer's report

Title: Hemoglobin estimation by the HemoCue(R) portable hemoglobin photometer in a resource poor setting

Version: 1 Date: 28 March 2011

Reviewer: Richard McLean

Reviewer's report:

1. Yes
2. A comparison with other methods has been assessed adequately with EDTA blood.
3. The data is satisfactory
4. Yes
5. To some extent yes, however, HemoCue data in resource limited conditions is not mentioned and the differences in settings not mentioned e.g. storage of cuvettes once opened, Is there a reduced shelf life?
What challenges are present when using the HemoCue in a resource limited setting?
6. Yes apart from evidence in a rural setting
7. Yes adequately
8. Yes
9. Yes

As the HemoCue cuvettes are capable of being used for capillary blood. The comparability of capillary and venous blood should be highlighted and referenced.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I have received reimbursement from HemoCue for a meeting attended in 2009.