Reviewer's report

Title: Comparability of HbA1c and lipids measured with dried blood spot versus venous samples: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Version: 1 Date: 9 December 2013

Reviewer: Prashant Mathur

Reviewer's report:

A. Major revisions:
   1. The paper wishes to assess suitability of using DBS method for community based estimation of HbA1c and lipids by comparing various studies, but does not include in its analysis parameters which influence results of each study. As a result the conclusions are not supported by analysis. Authors must analyse those parameters also.
   2. How do the authors account for differences in regressions due to method of analysing HbA1c eg. HLPC etc. Is it important or not needs to be answered.

B. Minor revisions
   1. Under Introduction section, para 1 line 10: clarify the meaning of of the statement "compared to venous samples, DBS....." is it just comparison of sample collection or includes its analysis also.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests' below