Reviewer's report

Title: Understanding and Retention of informed consent process among Parents in a Rural Northern Ghana

Version: 2 Date: 28 September 2007

Reviewer: Alan R Tait

Reviewer's report:

General
The authors have addressed most of the items from the previous review but there are still some outstanding issues, particularly with respect to the content and framing of items in the semi-structured interviews. It would be helpful to include a copy of the questionnaire as an appendix.

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
1. The introduction is far too long and can be cut significantly without losing its message.
2. Please include a copy of the semi-structured questionnaire. Since the framing of the questions can significantly influence the subjects' responses and hence their "understanding" of the information, it would be helpful to include the items used.
3. P11, how were the validity and reliability checks performed.

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)
1. Table 1 was not included in the copy that I received.
2. Why are there still two Figures 1?

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
As mentioned in my previous review, there needs to be more discussion regarding the findings in light of others that show poor understanding of consent information.
Correlating understanding with education level, age, gender would be interesting and add to the paper.
What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

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

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.