Reviewer's report

Title: Audio computer-assisted self-interviewing (ACASI) may avert socially desirable responses about infant feeding in the context of HIV

Version: 5  Date: 18 May 2005

Reviewer: Marek Brabec

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General
Details of the use of tests for independent samples are still not entirely clear. Basically for the same reasons that I explained last time.

On page 2 (in Methods section), the authors state: “Student’s t-test was used to compare means when measuring interview mode effect and Pearson Chi-square … was used to compare proportions … from samples stratified by an independent variable.” This is NOT enough. It is very likely that the paired t-test was used to compare interview mode (as is appropriate), but it should be stated completely. It is not enough to say that a t-test was used, since then it is not clear whether the appropriate paired version or inappropriate two-sample version is meant. Basically the same ambivalent statement is repeated on page 6.

Similarly, both on page 2 and page 6-7, the problem with what is meant by “comparing samples stratified by education as an independent variable” remains as before, when I commented: This use might or might not be correct, depending on whether the data are pooled across two measurement occasions … This comment remains active. The authors should explain what data they used to form the “independent variable groups”. Namely, it should be clear whether the two measurements of the same mother were or were not used in this particular analysis.

On page 11, the authors explained satisfactorily how the experiment was done. Only the word “block” should be avoided to exclude accidental confusion with actual randomized block experiment (which is not relevant for the current design as far as I understand).

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)