Reviewer's report

Title: Measuring access to medicines: a review of quantitative methods used in household surveys

Version: 2 Date: 5 January 2010

Reviewer: Anna Birna Almarsdóttir

Reviewer's report:

Minor Essential Revisions:
1) The author need to narrow the objectives at the end of the background section - stating that the review focuses on quantitative household surveys.
2) In stead of saying "six papers", the authors need to be more specific - are these peer-reviewed articles?
3) The manuscript needs thorough language revision. There are many examples of un-English word usage, such as using "that" when "this" should be written, "On Table 1" in stead of "In Table 1", "Refuse rates" which should be "Refusal rates", etc. Some of the following comments may relate to the fact that I do not understand the English used.
4) Discussion - Access definition: I do not grasp how cost-related underuse is not lack of accessibility? Furthermore: How can underuse be understood as "rational use"?
5) Discussion - Types of medicines: I do not understand the first sentence in this paragraph.
6) Discussion - Recruitment strategies: Again the first sentence is not clear at all.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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.