Reviewer's report

**Title:** Nurse led, primary care based antiretroviral treatment versus hospital care: a controlled prospective study in Swaziland

**Version:** 5  **Date:** 20 May 2010

**Reviewer:** Benjamin Chi

**Reviewer's report:**

I feel that the authors have addressed nearly all the points made in a reasonable and concise fashion.

I do request that the authors consider one final comment, however. In row 7 - in my query about sample size - the authors seemed to misunderstand one of my points. While we agree that the length of follow-up will undoubtedly affect the stated outcomes, I think we have different views on exactly how this might manifest. Individuals with fewer follow-up visits will have smaller denominators, and thus each missed visit will count against them more substantially compared to those with many follow-up visits. For that reason, I believe that the study group may have an advantage (rather than a disadvantage) because of their generally longer follow-up. The authors raise several important points too and it difficult to tease them all out. However, it is nonetheless an important potential bias that should be mentioned in the Discussion.

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

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I have no conflicts of interest to declare.