Reviewer's report

Title: Impact of dropout of female volunteer community health workers in Dhaka urban slums

Version: 2 Date: 27 May 2012

Reviewer: Gul Rukh Mehboob

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions:
The title of the paper refers only to the impact on the community. It must be revised as the study also deals with the impact of the drop out on the providers of the services.

In the methods section, the population of the study and sampling techniques have not been mentioned. If the authors has considered all the CHW's or offices responsible to bear the costs of training and recruitment, universal sampling technique should be mentioned.

Minor Essential Revisions:
The whole document needs to be shorten. There are unnecessary details and the authors have repeated the same arguments through out the study.

In the background section, it is better to brief and merge third and fourth paragraph. the last paragraph describing aims of the study should be made fourth paragraph of the study followed by the merged third and fourth paragraph briefing the audience on findings and implications.

The Methods section can follow the order as:
1. study site and duration of the study
2. Population and sampling
3. Approaches used
4. for the collected costs it is better to use a flow chart showing the capital and recurrent costs and its sub-categories followed by one or two paragraph description.
5. The data analysis can be the last sub-heading.

This will not only reduce the length of the methods section but will also bring clarity in the document.

Discussion section should be labelled as "discussion and implications" and needs to be strengthened. It should be supported with more references and evidence from other countries. The last paragraph of the discussion actually shows the significance of the study. It can be made part of the background (one or two liner)

Discretionary revisions:
In the last paragraph of the background the author has mentioned two main objectives however, the second one which deals with the comparison of costs of drop out borne by the service provider and community has not been addressed. It will be better if this comparison is also made part of the study, if not this objective must be eliminated from the study.

There are grammatical mistakes in the document. Minor corrections needs to be made

**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.