Reviewer's report

Title: How do small rural primary health care services sustain themselves in a constantly changing health system environment?

Version: 2 Date: 22 November 2011

Reviewer: allan goroll

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Overall, this is a very useful report of a creative and comprehensive set of strategies for ensuring and enhancing primary medical care to a small rural community in a time of great change and stress.

1. Major Compulsory Revision: The central component of the approach taken in this initiative was to partner with an academic center that enabled evaluation, monitoring, and attraction of resources for the community. I think this a very a creative and smart approach, but I am not sure how generalizable it is. Without the university-community partnership, I do not think this primary care revitalization effort would have succeeded. This is acknowledged briefly at the end of the report, but needs much more elaboration, discussion and emphasis if the report is going to be useful to others attempting similar rural health care revitalization.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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