Reviewer's report

**Title:** Comparison of medicine availability measurements at health facilities: evidence from Service Provision Assessment surveys in five sub-Saharan African countries

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 15 November 2012

**Reviewer:** Michael Ho

**Reviewer's report:**

- **Major Compulsory Revisions**
  1. Would report some of the primary results in the Results section showing availability of the medications. What does the mean value actually represent? Would state that in the Results section. Is this the average for all of the 32 medications? Is there variation by specific medication? This may be important to report.
  2. Does medicine availability vary by the specific medication?
  3. Does the availability vary by the type of facility, ie hospital, primary, and health center? Would also define what is meant by primary and health center in the methods section.
  4. Are all facilities (across the spectrum of the facilities) required to have all of these medications available?
  5. How were these 32 medications selected?

- **Minor Essential Revisions**
  None

- **Discretionary Revisions**
  None

**Level of interest**

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- An article of importance in its field

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

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the
statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:
None