Reviewer’s report

Title: Can low care of PWE be explained by insufficient knowledge of health staff? Example of Laos

Version: 2 Date: 21 September 2012

Reviewer: Kurupath Radhakrishnan

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1) It is not clear that who is primarily responsible for diagnosing and treating epilepsy in Laos? Nurses are not expected to diagnose and prescribe drugs for epilepsy in many countries. Hence their knowledge regarding medical aspects is likely to be lower than physicians.

2) Similarly, if the psychiatrists are mainly treating patients with epilepsy then majority of patients would be attending these clinics. Whether they included health centers which specifically treat epilepsy in the survey or such centers were excluded. Such an exclusion will bias the results.

3) Was the selection of questions in the survey was based on previous experience?

4) Results section can be divided into subheadings e.g. knowledge of epilepsy, practice of drug therapy, social aspects. In the present form it is bit difficult to comprehend.

5) Discussion is too long and emphasizes the same points again and again. It needs to be edited to make it more focused.

6) Comparison with similar studies from developing and developed countries can be briefly included in the discussion.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.