Reviewer's report

Title: Assessment of the uptake of neonatal and young infant referrals by community health workers to public health facilities in an urban informal settlement, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

Version: 1 Date: 5 November 2012

Reviewer: Amol r Dongre

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Comments –

1) Objectives – One of the objectives is to describe the ‘process of referral’ and ‘factors’ responsible for it. Was it a kind of self-review for improvement of your program?

2) Methods – The methods of information collection related to the ‘process of referral’ needs more clarity – was it collected by the review of existing documents only OR interview of field staff interview of community members were done. Who did this review? (Internal or external faculty) Was it an equity focused review? (Where different stakeholders and community perspectives were taken into account? Was it based on ‘secondary data from the existing program’ or ‘primary data was collected’? Somehow, objectives and methods do not seem in alignment.

3) Analysis – It is mentioned that chi-square and ANOVA was used, but it is not reflected in Tables anywhere. What analysis was done to identify ‘factors’ (determinants) of those who followed the advice?

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.