Reviewer's report

Title: Couple experiences of provider-initiated couple HIV testing in an antenatal clinic in Lusaka, Zambia: Lessons for policy and practice

Version: 1 Date: 18 December 2012

Reviewer: Susan Allen

Reviewer's report:

Excellent, important, and timely article

Major compulsory revisions: None

Minor essential revisions: type-o in ref 2, Hugonnet rather than Hugonmet, need to check other references closely

Discretionary revisions: From observation in the antenatal clinic, were lack of time, staff and space constraints for lay counselors? Had they been given targets or quotas that might have contributed to the motivation to use coercive tactics?

May want to reference two recent publications that describe successful promotional strategies for CVCT in Zambia, to add to refs 21-23 describing similar programs in other countries:


Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest 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 currently conduct research on promotion and provision of CVCT in Zambia (among other countries), but this work is entirely funded by competitive grants that would not be influenced by the publication or non-publication of this article.