Reviewer's report

Title: Explaining the Uptake of Paediatric Guidelines in a Kenyan Tertiary Hospital - Mixed Methods Research

Version: 2 Date: 18 September 2013

Reviewer: Charles Amnon Sunday Karamagi

Reviewer's report:

The BMC Health Services Research Editorial Team
Re: Review of manuscripts:

'Factors Influencing Performance of Health Workers in the Management of Seriously Sick Children at a Kenyan Tertiary Hospital - Participatory Action Research ' by Grace W Irimu PhD, Alexander Green PhD, David Gathara Msc, Harrison Kihara Dr, Christopher Maina Dr, Dorothy Mbori-Ngacha Prof, Dejan Zurovac PhD, Santau Migiro Dr and Mike English Prof

'Explaining the Uptake of Paediatric Guidelines in a Kenyan Tertiary Hospital - Mixed Methods Research' by Grace W Irimu PhD, Alexander Green PhD, David Gathara Msc, Harrison Kihara Dr, Christopher Maina Dr, Dorothy Mbori-Ngacha Prof, Dejan Zurovac PhD, Migiro Santau Dr, Jim Todd PhD and Mike English Prof

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to review the above mentioned manuscripts. I have reviewed both manuscripts and below are my comments. The manuscripts address an important topic for the improvement of the quality of care of children with severe disease in low-income countries. The methods used are unusual but highly illuminating. The authors have wisely written two manuscripts because the content in the methods, analysis, interpretation and discussion of the manuscripts would otherwise have been too much to compress into one manuscript with the risk of sacrificing valuable information.

Specific comments
1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined? Yes
2. Are the methods appropriate and well described? Yes
3. Are the data sound? Yes
4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition? Yes
5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data?
6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated? Yes
7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished? Yes
8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found? Yes
9. Is the writing acceptable? There are minor typographical errors

I recommend publication of the manuscripts after the authors have made the minor corrections.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Charles Karamagi, PhD
Associate Professor
Makerere University

**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