Reviewer’s report

Title: Determinants and pattern of care seeking for preterm newborns in a rural Bangladeshi cohort

Version: 1 Date: 10 April 2014

Reviewer: Amol Dongre

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Major essential revisions -

1. Introduction is too long. Some methods part has been written in the Introduction section

2. It is mentioned that Community Health Workers were paying home visits and data was collected prospectively. S/he should have motivated mothers with pre-term baby to a local health facility. Then, why some of these mothers went to unqualified health care providers? Who were those unqualified people? Were there practices potentially harmful to these pre-term baby. Was the factor of health education by CHW was considered while deciding the factors of health care seeking. Who makes the decision on health care seeking in the given family?

3. Some mothers might have accessed both qualified and unqualified health care providers, which is a quite common practice in rural settings. How was that part taken care of? Were there any qualified private health care providers?

4. Findings seem to be specific to the local context as lot of social and cultural factors operate when the decision to go to health facility is decided.

4. Limitations of the study should be mentioned in the discussion section

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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