Reviewer's report

Title: Can international health programmes be sustained after the end of international funding? The case of eye care interventions in Ghana

Version: 3 Date: 2 April 2013

Reviewer: Shane Norris

Reviewer's report:

The authors address an important area in health translation, intervention development, and policy - “sustainability”. The paper is very well written and presents a conceptual framework (approach) for thinking through sustainability issues early on in the development of an intervention.

- Major Compulsory Revisions

1. The authors describe that the study took place more than 4 years ago. It is important that the authors discuss this and possible implications.

2. The authors embed qualitative research in the results section but provide little detail on how this was collected other than mentioning discussion with key informants. It would be helpful if the authors could provide more methodological detail around the qualitative research.

3. The authors should discuss the validity of the proposed approach and suggest the need for it to be applied in other settings and interventions

- Minor Essential Revisions

1. The authors should consider reducing some of the tables – in particular Tables 7-12 could be deleted

- Discretionary Revisions

1. Recommend that the authors consider replacing the term “developing countries” with the more acceptable term “low- or middle-income countries (LMICs)”

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