Reviewer's report

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

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Reviewer: Ryuichi Komatsu

Reviewer's report:

The paper aim to answer an important question of sustainability of health programs after donor contribution. However, there is a major flaw in the logic in the paper. Namely, financing aspect seems largely ignored. Routine consultation can be financed as part of routine work (indeed does not require specific financing), but others do need some financing. Who pay the cost of surgery? Is it a hospital or patient? Unless financing element is clearly addressed as part of the analysis (e.g., analysis includes adjustment for costs of activities and financial situations after the donor departure, and not just a few words to mention this), the analysis and argument has a major flow or is very weak at best. This is especially important as the paper deals with the issues of sustainability and low resource setting.

The theory and methods to answer this question are well described. However, results/finding section is mixed with methods (e.g., scoring system) and interpretations.

Limitation of the study is not clear. For example, continuation may depend on availability of one individual at a region/district. Have the authors confirmed that all individuals were still working at these hospitals at the time of study?

Overall, the topic is very important, but I have a serious reservation about the quality of this paper as it is.

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