Reviewer’s report

Title: Translating research into policy in developing countries: a case study of magnesium sulphate for pre-eclampsia

Version: 1  Date: 15 July 2005

Reviewer: Mathieu Ouimet

Reviewer’s report:

General
This is a timely, informative manuscript and contributes to knowledge on the barriers to and facilitators of the implementation of the Magpie Trial findings into policy in developing countries.

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
NONE

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

On page 16, instead of reporting the means, it would have been more accurate to report the medians as the variables are ordinal. Also it would have been informative to report the number of cases (respondents) from which each mean (hopefully each median) was calculated.

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
- On page 5, it is written that "In this paper, we report the findings of a study that examined, firstly, the factors limiting the use of the recently published trial of...". It would have been probably more accurate to write "the potential factors" instead of "the factors" as these factors were mainly captured through expert opinions.

- You are looking at barriers to and facilitators of a specific type of policy changes, i.e. quick policy changes (the Trial was published recently). Perhaps it could be discussed in the conclusion.

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests