Reviewer's report

Title: Investigating health system performance: An application of data envelopment analysis to Zambian hospitals

Version: 4 Date: 6 March 2007
Reviewer: LYDIA KAPIRIRI

Reviewer's report:

General

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

Section 4.
4.1- It would be better if the author were consistent with the terminology- either 1ry, 2ry and 3ry levels or 1st 2nd and 3rd levels.
Par.1 on pg. 12 is phrased like a limitation to the study but is it? What value would including the teaching hospital added to the study?
In the following paragraph- I would leave out the first sentence unless the author implies that central level data would have been more comprehensive.

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests