Reviewer’s report

**Title:** What changes poor mothers’ child care-seeking behaviors?: a cross sectional study in Granada, Nicaragua

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 5 November 2009

**Reviewer:** Jasim Uddin

**Reviewer’s report:**

1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined?
   Ans. Yes, the questions proposed by the authors are well defined.

2. Are the methods appropriate and well described?
   Ans. The methods section has to be revised (please see my comments)

3. Are the data sound?
   Ans. The authors used old data set (data were collected in 2002). Suggested to supplement by recent data if possible.

4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition?
   Ans. The manuscript adheres to the relevant standards.

5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data?
   Ans. Yes, the discussion and conclusions are supported by results.

6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated?
   Ans. Limitations of the study has to be written by the authors.

7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished?
   Ans. Yes

8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found?
   Ans. Suggested changing the title

9. Is the writing acceptable?
   Ans. Yes, the writing is acceptable.

My specific comments are:

**Title:** I would suggest "Factors associated with changing poor mothers’ care-seeking behaviours: findings from a cross-sectional study in Granada, Nicaragua"

**Background (page 6, last para):** "The objectives of the study were.........................using the child nutritional status data set (28)". Please write
few sentences about that study and data set for more clarity of readers about present study context.

Methods:
- The study area was Nandaime municipality in Granada. How the study area was selected? Why not in other areas?
- Sampling part is very unclear. Please clarify about cluster. Each cluster consists of how many household/population? How the clusters were created? Three clusters were excluded from how many clusters? Thirty-seven clusters were selected from how many total clusters? Why 10 and 27 clusters were used from urban and rural areas respectively? Why not the equal number of clusters from both the areas? What was sample from each cluster? How this sample was selected?
- Please provide definition of "poor" in method section.
- The authors analyzed old data set (data were collected in 2002). Is it possible to supplement by recent data?
- Please elaborate about data collection procedure. Who collected data? Their education, experience, training, number of interviews done every day by each interviewer, measures taken for data reliability and quality control.

Results:
- Table 2: Child death experience before among group-3 was largely higher than other two groups. I am wondering about its interpretation.
- As a public health person I am curious to know difference of care seeking behaviours among poor mothers of urban and rural areas. Please provide a table presenting care-seeking behaviours of the mothers of the two groups.

Discussion:
- Information about limitations of the study is not available. The authors should describe about limitations of the study.

Reference:
- Reference list is not available with the manuscript.