Reviewer's report

Title: Private and Public Health Care in Rural Areas of Uganda

Version: 2 Date: 16 July 2010

Reviewer: Dominic Montagu

Reviewer's report:

The revisions have been generally well accomplished and following the further review of studies on the delivery of health services in Uganda by the authors I am convinced that this is indeed presenting new information and merits publication.

I would request that the authors make an addition of one sentence to clarify what the frame and selection process was for the facilities surveyed - does the 22 public and 60 private facilities represent ALL facilities in the 3 district study area? If not how was a frame constructed and specific facilities selected.

Finally I would advise that the description of quality of care assessment, and interpretation of results, be limited to the facility equipment available. This seems sufficient for the major issues raised in the discussion section. Should the the results of the clinical case scenarios, or vignettes, be retained, then significant elaboration on the content of the vignettes, the validity of the instruments, and the methods used for administration should be added. Previous application of clinical case scenarios (Peabody 2000, Peabody 2004,Das 2004, Leonard K. et al) have shown this methodology to have limitations in developing countries.

With these minor changes made, I believe that the novelty of the research merits publication.

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