Reviewer’s report

Title: Factors affecting utilization of skilled maternal care in Northwest Ethiopia: A multilevel analysis

Version: 2 Date: 6 February 2013

Reviewer: Eyob Zere

Reviewer’s report:

The reviewers have addressed the comments provided adequately.

Minor essential revisions:
- Editing required
- Sequencing of references: from 9 it goes to 12 & 13 and then jumps to 29, … – please address
- References required for some factual information (e.g. Page 3, Para. 1 – “… WHO standard of having skilled attendance for all births”)
- Acronyms should be written in full the first time and indicated in parentheses (e.g. ANC on Page 3, para 1)
- Page 5, Past Para, first sentence – it is better to limit to “studies in Ethiopia” as we cannot conclusively say that multi-level models have not been used elsewhere – there is enough literature
- Use a spell checker (e.g. Page 6, Para 1 - killo meter to mean kilometer)
- Page 6, Para 1, line 2 – insert “in”
- Page 6. Paragraph 2, Line 1: replace “have” with “had”
- Page 10, last para, Line 1: “has” should be “as”
- Page 15, Para 2, last two sentences – although the paragraph is set out to highlight the limitations, the two last ones discuss the strength. These have to be excluded from the paragraph. Moreover, the strength of multilevel analysis has been described in the document elsewhere; hence no need to repeat.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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