Reviewer's report

Title: Effect of the conditional cash transfer program Oportunidades on vaccination coverage for the Mexican elderly

Version: 1 Date: 11 April 2013

Reviewer: Paul Kowal

Reviewer's report:

A well written paper - I enjoyed reading this, and believe the journal readers will also.

Major compulsory
None.

Minor Essential Revisions
1) One more review/edit of final text would be warranted.
2) Acknowledging that the authors did apply the necessary statistical procedures to adjust the standard errors, the statistical approach chosen has been criticised for overstating significance - so might be wise to include a statement about this in the discussion section - and how authors accounted for this.
3) Believe the discussion should also include more of the argument for governments to keep older adults contributing to the economy and society by maintaining health and well-being through programmes like Oportunidades and South Africa’s means-tested pension system, for example. And for continuing programmes like Oportunidades/CCT in Mexico and other countries.
4) would very much like to see impact of Oportunidades on other health outcomes in older adults in Mexico.

Discretionary Revisions
1) References for vaccine justification in older adults are the key ones, yet somewhat dated. Newer refs are available that the authors might want to reference, such as:
Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

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.