Reviewer's report

Title: How far will we need to go to reach HIV-infected people in rural South Africa?

Version: 2 Date: 6 May 2007

Reviewer: susan reif

Reviewer's report:

General
This manuscript has greatly improved. It is easier to comprehend and more succinct. I only identified one sentence that is in great need of revision.

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

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

Abstract: The authors state that “The South African Government has outlined detailed plans for antiretroviral (ART) rollout in KwaZulu-Natal Province, but has not considered the problem of treatment-accessibility in rural areas.” I am a bit uncomfortable with this sweeping statement. I’m not sure how the authors would know with certainty that the South African government has not considered this problem. What the authors may know with certainty is that the South African government has not generated a plan to address ART access in rural areas. If this is the case, I would recommend revising the sentence to say something along the lines of “but has not created a plan to address treatment accessibility in rural areas in KwaZulu-Natal.”

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

Which journal?: Appropriate or potentially appropriate for BMC Medicine: an article of importance in its field

What next?: Accept for publication in BMC Medicine after minor essential revisions

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.