Reviewer's report

Title: Contraception for Adolescents in Low and Middle Income Countries: Needs, Barriers, and Access

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Reviewer: Jose M Belizan

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Major concern.
It is a relevant manuscript that could give important guidelines to stakeholders on the subject of adolescent reproductive health. The manuscript looks in some way like an opinion article with some aspects of summarizing evidences provided by previous reviews. There are sentences where it is not clear if the statement is the opinion of the authors or is based in strong literature support. The authors should make this clear throughout the paper. There are some examples of this below.

Minor comments.

Introduction.
The possibility to add to reference 2, the last report of the Global Burden of Disease from Health metrics by a link to their page or to the Lancet publication, November 2012.

In your sentence “Preventing early pregnancy is a key strategy to improving maternal and infant outcomes”. Please clarify “early” pregnancy.

Methods.
Please put more information about the DHS reports used, like years, references.

Please avoid the term “ironically” in the sentence: “Ironically, contraceptive services are usually directed toward the married.”

The following sentence does not have any literature support. Is this a commentary of the authors of is derived from any supporting evidence based source? Please clarify. “In making health services adolescent friendly, it is important to build on what already exists - modifying general health facilities to be friendlier to adolescents, rather than setting up new facilities exclusively for adolescents. Having said this, dedicated health facilities could be useful to reach marginalized groups of adolescents (such as sex workers) who may be reluctant to use a service-delivery point open to all.”

Same commentary as above for the following sentence: “Successfully addressing early and unintended pregnancy requires involvement of the wider community, not just adolescents. It is important to increase the public’s understanding of adolescent’s needs for information and contraceptives and to challenge normative barriers to access.”
References are needed for the following statements: “Conditional cash transfer schemes, intended to empower adolescents, hold promise for increasing contraceptive use. Getting girls into school and retaining them is a global development priority. Primary school attendance is now mandatory in many countries, but girls’ attendance in secondary schools is lagging. Cash transfer schemes appear to be effective at increasing school enrolment and attendance.”

Tables need to give more wording in the headings of columns to facilitate its reading. There are too much acronyms and it is not easy to follow the tables.

**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 do not have any financial competing interest