Reviewer's report

Title: Fetal demise and associated factors following umbilical cord prolapse in Mulago hospital, Uganda. A retrospective study.

Version: 1 Date: 7 November 2013

Reviewer: Anthony K Mbonye

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Review Report

Title: Fetal demise and associated factors following umbilical cord prolapsed in Mulago hospital Uganda: a retrospective study

General Comments:
1. Research question: Not well stated
2. Objectives: not clear
3. Methods: –Inadequate
4. Results: Fairly presented
5. Discussion – Fair
6. Conclusion: – Fair
7. General write-up: – Fair
8. Conclusion: Reject.

Specific comments:
The title: Should be reviewed to read: Cord prolapse and fetal loss in Mulago hospital, Uganda: A retrospective study.

Background: Expand the background to show obstetric complications in Uganda, neonatal morbidity and mortality, maternal morbidity in Uganda, quality of care and care seeking for antenatal and delivery care.

Methods

What was the research question?
What was the hypothesis?
What was the primary outcome?
What was the justification for selecting the statistical model?
How was sample size calculated?
How was data validated?
Were research assistant trained and for how long?
Discussion
In the last paragraph of the discussion, Page5, the authors acknowledge that “the findings of our study were generally not new”. This makes it difficult to publish material that doesn’t add anything new to the subject.

What are the limitations of the methods?
What are further areas for research to improve fetal outcomes?
What are the policy implications?

References are not in a uniform format
Table 2 and table 3 should be combined see Mbonye AK et al, table 5, Malar J. 2013; 16; 12(1):131.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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