Reviewer's report

Title: Factors associated with Institutional Delivery among Mothers in Bahir Dar City Administration, Amhara Region: A community based cross sectional study

Version: 2 Date: 16 December 2013

Reviewer: Ekechi Okereke

Reviewer's report:

General comments: The study appears to assess factors associated with institutional delivery among mothers in Bahir Dar City Administration, Amhara region, however there is abundant literature and studies which document the varied factors that are associated with institutional delivery so this study may not necessarily add anything significant to the literature except maybe within the context of the Amhara region and the Bahir Dar City Administration; thus the findings and recommendations appear to be of limited interest to an international audience.

Major compulsory revisions:

Abstract:

There are major grammatical errors and many sentences need reconstruction. e.g. the sentence "A total of 484 mothers - selected from the systematically selected households..." needs grammatical reconstruction. In addition, the sentence "Data were collected by trained 10th grade completed female data collectors" can be rephrased simply as "Data was collected by trained female data collectors". The 'result section' of the Abstract needs to be written, organized and presented better. Furthermore, the 'conclusion section' also needs reconstruction and should mainly present deductions from the results of the study especially those which have policy implications and/or improved health care practice. This section could be presented thus:

"Although the prevalence of institutional delivery from this study is optimal, urban mothers were more likely to practice institutional delivery. The study results show that ANC visits, primary as well as secondary education are independent social predictors of place of delivery, hence intensifying education for women and behavior change communication (BCC) interventions to increase early initiation and take up of ANC visits in the first trimester to promote institutional delivery is recommended."

Introduction:

The Introduction section needs to be better written and organized. This section has major grammatical errors for e.g. the sentence in paragraph two "Developing countries specially African and South Asian countries showed relative failurity in improving maternal health and reducing maternal deaths..." needs grammatical
reconstruction.

Methods:

This section has some major grammatical errors. In addition, under the 'Study setting and Sample section', the first sentence "A community based cross sectional study..." the last 12 months period from 'June 15–July 15, 2012' does not clearly show a 12 months period.

Results:

This article will be much improved if the findings are better presented and some grammatical errors addressed.

Discussion:

This section needs to be better organized and the discussions following from the results section better presented in a logical manner. It currently seems as if the findings from the study are not coherently presented and discussed thus appearing somewhat confusing. Furthermore like all other sections of the manuscript, there is need for major grammatical errors to be addressed and many sentences reconstructed before a decision on publication can be made.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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