Reviewer's report

Title: Perspectives of professionals participating in the Brazilian Network for the Surveillance of Severe Maternal Morbidity regarding the implementation of routine surveillance: a descriptive study

Version: 1 Date: 24 September 2013

Reviewer: Karim Abawi

Reviewer's report:

Comments:

- This article lacks abstract.

- The background /introduction should be more clear and contain key points. The Brazilian network should clearly be explained (introducing standard and unified criteria based on WHO guidelines for Near-miss to health professionals in different health facilities). This helps the reader, especially non-Brazilians to better understand this surveillance system.

- The methodology part should be more structured (Study area, study participants, research method, data collection instruments, data analysis)

- It should be mentioned how the facilities were selected. 27 facilities out of how many?

- Manpower involved in the study and their role should be clearly mentioned (role of PI or hospital manager....)

In the result part there were too much citations / quotations. You can also sort and regroup the information obtained.

The English of the article should be revised, in-order to make the text more fluid.

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:

None of the above-mentioned points. No to all