Reviewer's report

Title: A cluster randomized controlled trial to evaluate the effectiveness of the clinically integrated RHL evidence-based medicine course

Version: 1 Date: 6 September 2009

Reviewer: Justus Hofmeyr

Reviewer's report:

This is a well designed study to answer a relevant question.

Major compulsory revision:

1. Assessment: There is the potential for bias in the assessment if items in the MCQ or the questionnaires test specific information emphasized in one or other of the interventions. It would be useful to include in the protocol a strategy to guard against this, or a concession that this may be a limitation of the study. For example, the MCQ and questionnaires could be designed by an EBM expert with no knowledge of the content of the two interventions to be tested.

Discretionary revision:

2. Recruitment and allocation: It will be useful to note that the fact that participants will not be informed which groups will be compared will not guarantee that they will not know which groups are being compared, as the protocol will be in the public domain.

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 declare that I have no competing interests