Reviewer’s report

Title: Community mobilisation and health management committee strengthening to increase birth attendance by trained health workers in rural Makwanpur, Nepal: a cluster randomised controlled trial

Version: 3 Date: 12 May 2011

Reviewer: John Norrie

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have responded comprehensively and convincingly to the reviewer’s comments, and all the changes made are appropriate and have improved the clarity of the Protocol.

In terms of major point #1, the authors have resolved the query. It is now clear that the study is not recruiting the skilled birth attendants – it is more that the study is taking place in a context of less than 100% availability of such SBA’s, for which the uptake has not been as rapid as was hoped for. The authors make the clear point that the intervention will be judged on what it achieves over and above the control group.

Also, agree with the authors that the sample size calculations do not need to be in a Table – the text as they indicate is very clear and adequate.