Reviewer's report

Title: MOBILE Technology for Improved Family Planning Services (MOTIF): a randomised control trial protocol

Version: 1 Date: 12 November 2013

Reviewer: Audrey Prost

Reviewer's report:

I commend the authors on an excellent trial protocol: clear, comprehensive, and well written.

Discretionary revisions:

- In the impact model, you could take out maternal mortality from the ‘reduced impact’ box: although this is certainly a logical and desirable consequences of increased post-abortion contraceptive use, it is not something you can or will measure in this trial, so given you mentioned potential impacts on maternal mortality in your background, perhaps you don’t need to do so here?

- The 20 qualitative interviews seemed to be very geared towards ‘improving the intervention’ under the assumption that it will work, rather than for use in process evaluation, i.e. to understand what may have led to impact or lack thereof. For this you would need to speak to people who are using contraception at four months and others who do not. If this is in fact what you intend to do, it might be worth specifying it.

- Given that your trial is not powered on the ‘second’ primary outcome (‘objective’ contraceptive use) but that this is mainly intended to verify the reliability of the main primary outcome, it might be worth: (a) further detailing how these 50 participants will be selected (randomly from the list of 500?) and (b) what results/thresholds you would use to decide whether the self-report measure was reliable or not.

Wishing you a very successful trial,

Dr Audrey Prost, University College London

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest 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.