Reviewer’s report

Title: Conservation of Resources Theory and Research Use in Health Systems

Version: 2 Date: 28 April 2010

Reviewer: Francois Champagne

Reviewer’s report:

This article is highly relevant to advance our thinking about determinants of research use and original in its use of Conservation of Resources Theory to do so. Review of the relevant literature is excellent and comprehensive.

Suggested discretionary revisions:

1) the last two objectives of the case study as described in the methods section- to examine the function of resources and how resource constraints affect research use- do not correspond and should correspond to themes 2 and 3 as described in the interview guide and procedures section and with theme 2 and 3 of the results section.

2) labeling of theme 2 in the interview guide and results section- Motivation to Conserve Resources- might be more appropriately relabeled as in the background presentation of CORT-threat of loss and protection of assets.

3) can data collected under theme 3 more convincingly show how resources must be optimized for successful research use?

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