Reviewer’s report

Title: NEEDS ASSESSMENT OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL AND RESCUE SERVICES IN ABUJA/NIGERIA AND ENVIRONS

Version: 3 Date: 11 Sep 2019

Reviewer: Winfred Baah

Reviewer's report:

1. Page 3 METHODS

"A literature review on relevant information on medical emergencies with a focus on low income countries."

COMMENTS

This statement is not complete. It does not flow in the structure of this paragraph

I suggest it reads "A literature review on relevant information on medical emergencies with a focus on low income countries was done."

2. Page 8

Painkillers and other medicines are administered, an oxygen mask is placed on the face of the victim when the patient cannot breathe properly and the heart rate and volume are monitored using the ECG machine in the ambulance.

COMMENTS

The ECG machine measures heart rate. Does it measure volume? ..and volume of what? Please clarify
3. Page 8  Table 4

"Table 4 shows the average delay times observed during the observation period of 14 days. The delay times from point of call to arrival at the scene ("transport delay") for MAITAMA and NEMA were 15-30 minutes, FRSC delay times were much longer (over 35 minutes)."

COMMENT

Your explanatory notes for table 4 doesn't seem to match what is in the table. You have "RESPONSE TIME" in the Table but used "TRANSPORT TIME" and "DELAY TIME" in the explanatory notes for table 4. Please clarify; Do these terms mean the same? Please compare with your own definitions below

"Delay times of pre-clinical care ("transport delay" from call to arrival of ambulance at scene)"

"Table 4 Response time (in minutes) from the event to rescue to clinical care in Abuja as measured during 14 days in each institution."

4. PREVIOUS QUERY

DISCUSSION

"PAGE 10, LINE 3 'In this study, we distinguished between "call delay" (from occurrence of the event until calling the call centre) and "transport delay" (from receiving the call at the centre to arriving at the hospital/health care facility). The call delays were obtained through observational periods and interviews with victims...'"

COMMENT - There was no data presented to substantiate the above. Please clarify

ANSWER: Table 4. Shows the different data."

COMMENT

I still cant see any data in Table 4 distinguishing between "call delay" and "Transport delay". 
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I recommend additional statistical review

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

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