Reviewer's report

Title: Incidence and determinants of severe maternal morbidity: a transversal study in a referral hospital in Teresina, Piaui, Brazil

Version: 3 Date: 26 March 2015

Reviewer: Priya Soma-Pillay

Reviewer's report:

1. Provide definitions for the terms: maternal death, near miss, severe maternal morbidity and mortality index.
2. Calculate the percentages of the maternal death and near miss cases. This can be included in the results section, lines 151-152.
3. Calculate the mortality index for the different disease categories. This can be included in Table 2.
4. What was the caesarean section rate for the general population, near miss cases and maternal death cases.
5. Describe the cases of maternal death in more detail.