Reviewer’s report

Title: Innovative approaches for improving maternal and newborn health - A landscape analysis

Version: 4 Date: 10 July 2015

Reviewer: Alessandra Bazzano

Reviewer’s report:

The authors present a helpful review of MNH approaches, conceptual framework, and relevant evidence related to those approaches. They categorize the approaches and call for further assessment using rigorous methods. The search strategy used by the authors, as defined by a survey of global health professionals, and subsequent definition of innovation is slightly limited in that the extent to which the approach is "novel or newly packaged" is not made clear. For example, it is not clear how training of "professional midwives in newborn care" or "training and support of TBAs" are to be considered "novel". Nonetheless the landscape analysis is a useful tool through which to assess the state of MNH approaches.

Minor Essential Revisions
Line 376 spelling of "scarcity"
Line 504 change sentence to read "quality care is available to all and that is not determined by..." (grammatical problem: care ... does not discriminate personal characteristics)

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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