Reviewer’s report

Title: Factors associated with intended use of a Maternity Waiting Home in Southern Ethiopia: a community-based cross-sectional study

Version: 1 Date: 03 Oct 2017

Reviewer: Sarah Rominski

Reviewer's report:

Overall, this paper has been much improved by the revisions that have been made. I have just a few comments.

1. Do the authors have any ideas as to why the confidence intervals around their estimates are so wide?

2. In the Limitations section, it says, "since we did not have the resources to use translators or revisit households...", but in the Methods section it is stated, "households were revisited for incomplete data." Please reconcile.

3. In the Discussion section, it is written, "MWHs alone will not reduce maternal and neonatal mortality and morbidity [20]." While I certainly agree with this, I am hoping you can say just a touch more about it. In my view, this is at least two-fold. The preceding paragraph seems to be saying that this is because unless the MWHs are used, they won't be effective in reducing morbidity and mortality. A MWH is just a building and unless it's used, it won't be effective. However, I think the other point that needs to be made is that, without coupling MWHs with high quality obstetric services, MWHs also won't reduce maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality on their own. The are only effective if they are a tool that is used to increase the number of women who are able to access high quality care. This may be implicit, but I think it needs to be stated explicitly.

4. In the next sentence of the discussion, it is stated, "whose who...had a higher level of awareness of the benefits of a MWH." How did you measure "awareness of the benefits"? I don't see anything else about awareness of the benefits.

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?
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Yes

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I am able to assess the statistics

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