Reviewer's report

Title: Bubble CPAP to support preterm infants in rural Rwanda: a retrospective cohort study

Version: 2 Date: 15 March 2015

Reviewer: Fidelis Njokanma

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Major compulsory Revisions
None

Minor essential revisions
1. Abstract
Lines 53 to 54 of the manuscript reads as follows:
"Of the 43 bCPAP-eligible infants for whom bCPAP was and was not initiated, 18 (41.8%) and 13 (56.5%) recovered, respectively."

It should be recast to give more clarity. For instance:
"Among the bCPAP eligible infants, the survival rates were 41.8% (18 of 43) for those in whom the procedure was initiated and 56.5% (13 of 23) for those in whom it was not initiated."

2. Results
Lines 177 to 180 of the manuscript reads:
"Of the 23 bCPAP-eligible infants for whom bCPAP was not initiated, 56.5% (n=13) recovered, 39.1% (n=9) died and 6.9% (n=3) were referred for tertiary care. Outcome information was missing for 1 (2.3%) infant.

Comment
The phraseology used by the authors gives the impression of wrong arithmetic because 13 + 9 + 3 + 1 will not give 23. It would however appear that the three infants listed as having been transferred to a tertiary institution were among the survivors or fatal cases. If
that is so, the facts should be expressly stated.

3. Figure 1
The box for “Initiate CPAP” did not show the pressure to be used for CPAP. This should be corrected.

Discretionary corrections
None

**Level of interest:** An article of outstanding merit and interest 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.'