Reviewer’s report

Title: How can formative research inform the design of an iron folic acid supplementation intervention starting in first trimester of pregnancy in Bangladesh?

Version: 2
Date: 26 February 2015
Reviewer: ALINA FLORES

Reviewer’s report:

Abstract and Paper:
1. Authors appear to have addressed major revision needs from prior review. There are still outstanding revisions needed however, as listed below.

Compulsory Revisions needed:
2. Overarching revision: it seems that this study is subject to various limitations; however no limitations section is noted in the paper. Authors should include limitations to study.

Editorial revision needed. Although some are more minor than others, these revisions are necessary in order to provide credibility to the manuscript.
3. Line 14: woman’s should be women
4. Line 17: tablet should be supplementation
5. Line 20: ‘a targeted home visits…’ – ‘a’ should be removed
7. Line 36: insert ‘a’ in between ‘to’ and ‘higher’ – should read …’birth to a higher proportion of low birth…’
8. Line 42: IFA is first mentioned in the body of the text in this line, but has not been spelled out in full prior to this mention (abstract should not count). Need to spell out IFA and provide acronym in parentheses at this point
9. Line 51: needs space between ‘and’ and ‘iron’
10. Line 86: “we collection of data” should read “we collected data”
11. Line 156: ‘foods taboos’ should read ‘food taboos’
12. Line 191: sentence beginning with “The users of IFA tablets” does not read well. Perhaps beginning with “The family members of users of IFA tablets perceived that…”
13. Line 225: were the tablets in the blister packs different from other tablets somehow? It is unclear from the statement why they would be unpopular with women. Seems like this would be important information for the discussion.
14. Line 236 and 238: ‘network’ should be ‘networks’ (plural)
15. Line 237: ‘student’ should be ‘students’ (plural)
16. Line 250: ‘workers’ should be ‘worker’ (singular)
17. Line 262: ‘on’ is missing from the sentence - ‘based on what’
18. Line 288: ‘women’ should be ‘woman’ (As one pregnant woman said.)
19. Lines 318-320 read poorly. Consider revising to: “Our study revealed that there is no local term for ‘low birth weight’ in Bangla (the language spoken by the study community. Although this could indicate a lack of expectation around a specific or minimal birth weight, families did express concern about having a health infant.”
20. Line 327: ‘incidents’ should be ‘incidence’
21. Line 354: end of the sentence “can be used to promote…” seems extraneous and does not mesh with first part of the sentence; consider deleting or re-wording phrase.

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

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**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.