Reviewer’s report

Title: Quality of care for children with severe disease in Congo, DRC

Version: 1 Date: 13 Sep 2019

Reviewer: Anbrasi Edward

Reviewer's report:

The authors have improved the manuscript enormously, addressing comments of previous reviews. Though additional reflections on combining hospital and health clinic cases, without risk adjustments, comorbidities etc need to be considered the inference provides key issues on the lack of provider adherence, and low training in IMCI protocols. CHW's provide iCCM, yet, there is no indication of whether these pts accessed or received treatment from these providers prior to arrival at the outpatient clinics. Higher patient volume is reported, but even in the health centers, this computes to an average of 5 patients per day, assuming clinics operate 5 days a week? Not as high to affect quality of care? Another minor element is whether providers neglected to prescribe antimalarials due to stock outs, and if system readiness assessments indicated lack of essential supplies. A more compelling statement for the concluding section, which reflects on the potential for RBF to improve quality, may be essential.

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.

No

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

Not relevant to this manuscript
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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