Reviewer's report

Title: Cervical cancer screening program in Thimphu, Bhutan: population coverage and characteristics associated with screening attendance

Version: 1  Date: 5 August 2014

Reviewer: Antonella Zucchetto

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Although affected by selection bias (due to the low participation of women contacted at home, which are usually more representative of the general population) study results are appreciable, also in consideration of the difficulties of the setting, and they could be useful to improve screening attendance in Bhutan and in similar countries.

I only have a couple of comments.

1. In the Methods, please better clarify the study procedures (unless the reference to Tshomo et al. has become available in the meantime). In particular, it is not clear how and how many women were recruited by the two approaches. Furthermore, please better clarify how information was gathered on previous screening among non participants.

2. As reported in Table 2, the “place of invitation” (home vs. clinic) seems to affect less the proportion of screened women than “study participation”. However, it would be interesting to see whether additional adjustment of logistic regression models by recruiting method (or stratification) would affect the results reported in Table 1.

Minor Essential Revisions:

1. Methods: Please define JDWRH
2. Figure 2 should be similar to Figures 1 and 3 (i.e. Bar-chart)

Discretionary Revisions:

Table 1: ‘Student’ category is not informative (eliminate it or include it in another category)

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:
I hereby declare to have collaborated in the past five years with Silvia Franceschi in collaborative studies, by conducting statistical analyses and by writing several papers. Nonetheless, I have never had a direct working relationship with her or with her Institution that may constitute competing interests.