Reviewer’s report

Title: Investigating the quality of family planning counselling as part of routine antenatal care and its effect on intended postpartum contraceptive method choice among women in Nepal

Version: 1 Date: 23 Jan 2020

Reviewer: Anne Pfitzer

Reviewer's report:

I feel the authors have addressed my comments well. If they wish to buttress their addition of a recommended brochure for husbands, they can cite or refer to Cooper CM, Fields R, Mazzeo CI, Taylor N, Pfitzer A, Momolu M, et al. Successful proof of concept of FP and immunization integration in Liberia. Glob Health Sci Pract. 2015;3(1):71-84. That program sought to reach postpartum women with PPFP information and intrafacility referrals during immunization visits. But if a woman refused a referral, she was offered a brochure to take to and discuss with her husband. Lastly, I appreciate that the authors have added content related to client-centered counseling in the discussion. But I would further advise removing the recommendation to discuss the pros and cons of each choice. Some counseling approaches, such as Balanced Counseling Strategy Plus use an algorithm to ask women questions about their circumstances and based on those responses eliminate any counseling on methods that are clearly not suitable for that client at that time. So for example, if a client says she wants to have 3 children and this is her first pregnancy, there is no need to discuss the pros and cons of sterilization. or if she says her husband is not supportive of contraception, then there is no point in discussing standard days method, condoms or vasectomy (at least until her situation changes). But focusing on the range of methods that are appropriate for that client at that time is still high quality counseling. My earlier feedback about the value of this paper to the body of literature on PPFP counseling stands and I look forward to seeing the published article.

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.

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