Reviewer's report

Title: Midwives' Expectations and Challenges for Professional Development in Urban Tanzania: a qualitative study

Version: 2 Date: 25 September 2014

Reviewer: Yasuko Nagamatsu

Reviewer's report:

Discretionary Revisions
Result
## Please reconsider the names of the categories and subcategories
(1) Motivation to improve MCH and reproductive outcomes #
Goal of professional development
a) Achieve the MDGs # To achieve MDGs
b) Make reproductive health awareness #
To raise reproductive health awareness (among women?)
(2) Concept that ‘knowledge is power’ #
Impact of professional development
a) To provide good practice based on knowledge #
Quality and smooth care
b) To be a role model #
Extended scope of work
c) Knowledge gives higher position and courage #
Successful carrier
d) Knowledge enables them to approach to the government #
Better policy making
(3) There is no end to learning # Needs of Professional development
a) Learning for advanced personal development # Hunger for learning
b) Education makes a circle of knowledge #
Ripple effect to other midwives
## It is good idea if you make clear the meaning of sentences.
#The category consists of four subcategories about what kind of power that was expressed “knowledge is power”,.... (P16)
#....this is the first time for me next year.” (G014) (p19)
#“We can be able to practice as midwives and achieve what has been
planned, by the ministry of health in that strategic plan (eg, if we have better knowledge?).” (G028)

“I have a good chance to update my knowledge I’ll be help (What this sentence means?). Because we as a midwife we suppose to [have] higher education so that we can update our knowledge as well as skills so that we can be able to meet the MDGs 4 and 5.” (G032)

3. Please quote the appropriate narrative to explain the subcategory. Some quotation is hard to understand the connection to the subcategory. It means, you chose the wrong narrative or put the wrong name on the subcategory.

#(A009)
#(G051)
#(G051)
#It looks more appropriate to quote (B10) for 3)-b)
#(G042)
#(B005-008) explain better

##B10#(B13) can be in the 3)-b).

Discussion

Please discuss about shortage of midwives and professional development.

What do they need for professional development? For example, training? Master course? Educational equipment? Tutors? Regulation? And so on.

Result explained midwives wanted further education. However authors did not mentioned what subject they wanted to learn. Do they want to gain knowledge or do they want to get degree? In developing countries, health workers take educational course to learn and stay overseas and do not return to work for the people in their countries. It is important to develop the effective educational system to empower the workers as well as to keep them in the community. How do you think?

Minor Essential Revisions

I advise this article to be revised by English native speaker.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

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:

One of the co-authors is the leader of the research project which supports
midwifery education in Tanzania. I am one of the members. The research project has several researches. The corresponding author and I are working on different researches. I have never known about and am not working for the research of this article. I read the article and commented in fare position.

Please advise me if I am a right to review this article.