Reviewer’s report

Title: The exit interview as a proxy measure of malaria case management practice: Sensitivity and specificity relative to direct observation

Version: 3 Date: 20 September 2014

Reviewer: Ogochukwu Ibe

Reviewer’s report:

- Major Compulsory Revisions
  1. Should provide more information on the context within which study was carried out, for example, was the study conducted in the same facilities over the 3 years? What types of health workers were employed in those facilities included?
  2. Since SP was used as tracer for appropriate prescribing, was the analysis of this variable restricted to only those that received SP?
  3. I would like to see more background literature on why there are often problems of recall with subjective practices, is it that health workers lack communication skills or are they entirely dependent on patient attributes?

- Minor Essential Revisions
  1. The authors should include the literacy level of respondents (if such information) in tables 1 and explore its association with recall of treatment advice and action.
  2. Table 2 is not clearly labelled, what does n.eligible and n.performed stand for? If this represents exit and observed respondents it should be relabelled as such for more clarity.

- Discretionary Revisions
  -nil

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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 interest