Reviewer’s report

Title: The integrated disease surveillance and response system in northern Ghana: Challenges to the core and support functions

Version: 2 Date: 15 April 2015

Reviewer: Michael Marx

Reviewer’s report:

1. The study question posed by the authors is well defined
2. The methods are appropriate. However, the sampling procedure could be explained more in detail, e.g. inclusion / exclusion criteria; their function/position in the health facility. In addition, the strength and weakness of the chosen qualitative study design could be further explained.
3. Collected data is conclusive and appears to be genuine
4. The manuscript adheres to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition
5. The discussion and conclusions are well balanced and adequately supported by the data
6. The authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building. Respective references are sufficient
7. The title and abstract accurately convey what has been found?
8. The writing acceptable

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 interests'