Reviewer’s report

Title: "Ways and channels for voice regarding perceptions of maternal health care services within the communities of the Makamba and Kayanza provinces in the Republic of Burundi: An exploratory study"

Version: 3 Date: 12 Nov 2017

Reviewer: Jean-Benoit Falisse

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for your efforts working towards the final version of the manuscript. I am generally satisfied with the way you addressed my comments (and appreciate your efforts to answer the important comment of reviewer 1). Regarding your answer to my last point, I would be even more careful when you state that:

"Nevertheless, the data show that barriers to community voice are independent of rural or urban locations, plain or mountain communities, more or less informed communities regarding health services (along trading routes and with access to facilities or not)"

The point of being careful with the representativeness of your sample is precisely to refrain from such generalization. You can state that it is interesting to note that the findings are similar across different settings but it seems a stretch to state "barriers to community voice are independent of rural or urban locations" - this would suggest a much larger, systematic, study of the context.

Second, I would stress the *cultural* difficulty of interviewing women. You seem to put the blame of women being shy and reluctant when there are complex cultural barriers to interviewing rural women with whom no rapport existed beforehand (especially in a culture when mean, rather than women, are in power).
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?
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Yes

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Yes

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