Reviewer’s report

Title: Integration of maternal postpartum services in maternal and child health services in Kaya health district (Burkina Faso): an intervention time trend analysis

Version: 0 Date: 17 Nov 2017

Reviewer: Belen Corbacho

Reviewer’s report:

The research has addressed extremely well the overall scope and objectives, and the findings inform very well the original research question about the effectiveness of the MOMI programme. The research design and methodology was highly appropriate to deliver the work described in the application and was executed with the high degree of rigour and competence. Policy-makers can have confidence in the quality of the findings presented.

I believe the authors have conducted an appropriate and difficult analysis that is worthy of publication. I have made a number of minor suggestions in terms of ways in which I think the research could have been improved.

1. I understand that random sampling is difficult but if this was not possible I would mention this as a limitation of the study.

2. The qualitative research was not used to best advantaged. Mixed-methods of this nature should involve the interactive use of the two types of data such that for example, information from the quantitative data is used to select a sample of women to participate in the qualitative part of the research. This could have included women for whom there was change, and women for whom there was no change. The interviews could then have focused explicitly on what went wrong for the women for whom there was no change. The authors mention that log frame of activities was set up before the intervention implementation. Is there any information on the project documents/log frame that would allow for some success and non-success case studies presented?

3. On a personal note, I would have liked to know the costs associated with the intervention. Similarly this reviewer and the reader would benefit from a more thorough understanding of what comprises usual care for mothers and babies and how it differs from the MOMI package. In these terms, it may be helpful for the authors to extend discussion section to highlight potential cost-savings associated with implementation of the intervention; which in turn would help to link the results of their research to the wider benefits of the MOMI programme (e.g. more efficient use of limited health care resources).

Overall this analysis was appropriately conducted and it was my pleasure to review it. I believe these types of analyses are very important to the healthcare system in its current state, and have such, I hope to see more analyses like this in publication.

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.

Yes

**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.

I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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