Reviewer’s report

Title: Exploring effectiveness of different health financing mechanisms in Nigeria; what needs to change and how can it happen?

Version: 1 Date: 22 Jun 2019

Reviewer: Henry Aloj

Reviewer's report:

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REVIEWER'S COMMENT

TOPIC: Exploring needed changes and how they can happen to improve health financing in Nigeria.

General Comment:

* The study is timely and sufficiently detailed. The general layout of the work is good.

Specific Comments:

1. Abstract:

This truly reflect the work. However, NHIS and UHC can be written in full.

2. Background:

* Sufficient information was given and the objective of the study was clearly stated. But repetition was noted and this can be corrected without losing adequate explanation of the topic. Example is: '… National Health Act (NHAct) of 2014 holds promise for achieving UHC for all Nigerians through the Basic Health Care Provision Fund (BHCPF) that will be financed with at least 1% of the country's consolidated revenue, and other sources such as grants and donations'.

* Also points like: '…over the years, Local Governments, which constitute the third tier of government, have considerably lost their autonomy as successive state
governments are having more control over the local government administration and funding' deserve to be cited.

3. **Methodology:**

   * Data collection method will be better explained if the two methods applied (document review and in-depth interview) were explained separately. Thus, line 181-183 should be moved forward.

   * No mention of State Ministry of Health departments that were included in the study.

4. **Findings:**

   * The findings are detailed and well presented.

5. **Discussion:**

   * This is well presented.

6. **Conclusion:**

   The conclusion section is precise.

7. **IMPRESSION:** The topic is interesting and the work is detailed and suitable for 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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