Reviewer’s report

Title: A CRITICAL APPRAISAL OF GUIDELINES USED FOR MANAGEMENT OF SEVERE ACUTE MALNUTRITION IN SOUTH AFRICA’S REFERRAL SYSTEM

Version: 0 Date: 29 May 2017

Reviewer: Jeane Cloete

Reviewer's report:

1. Page 4 - In the literature review the definition of SAM according to the WHO is 115mm not 110. If 110 mm cut off is used we would under diagnose patients. Please verify with WHO SAM guidelines or mention alternatives in literature review

2. Although the process seems to be unbiased, clearly mixed methods of research was used. It is not clearly stated that the same interviewees are used for all the guidelines. For the EDL there was clearly a wide selected interviewees. Please declare bias in methods regarding interviewees.

3. Conclusions seem reasonable; rigor of examination of the protocols seems transparent and clear except for the qualitative part of the review.

Level of interest
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An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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

Acceptable

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