Reviewer's report

Title: Availability, utilisation and quality of maternal and neonatal health care services in Karamoja region, Uganda: a health facility-based survey

Version: 1 Date: 26 January 2015

Reviewer: Temilayo E. Adeyeye

Reviewer's report:

Overall recommendation: There are minor essential revisions that the author needs to correct.

1. The question posed is unique to the region being studied and would be informative and useful in policy changes for the region. The objectives of the study are original, important and well defined.

2. Given the limited data available, the study design and data collection process were adequate.

3. The discussion was well balanced and captured the essence of the results observed. The discussion and conclusion were supported by the data results.

4. The methods were well described and sufficient details were provided to allow for replication.

5. A cross sectional study has its limitations. Reliance on the health workers/staff and/or patient recall of the delivery services and experiences could be very subjective. The authors noted this limitation. The routine MNH procedures were not actively monitored and observed and as such may be influenced by interviewee’s perception of what they think one wants to hear. Restriction of the assessment to the Karamoja region does not allow for absolute generalizability to other regions. However, it gives a picture of what may be happening across the country in other regions.

6. There were some syntax and typographical errors made across the article. The organization and formatting of the manuscript should be reviewed. Indentation is not consistent. Please review.

7. Line 151 versus Line 155: Is it the “antenatal clinic exit interviews” or the “antenatal client exit interviews”?

8. Line 157: change “Yamani” to “Yamane”

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

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being
published

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.