Reviewer's report

Title: Critical Maternal Health Knowledge Gaps in Low- and Middle-Income Countries for the Post-2015 Era

Version: 1 Date: 14 April 2015

Reviewer: Dorothy Shaw

Reviewer's report:

As we close in on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) this year, knowing that we will not meet targets on maternal mortality, this article is timely and its content can provide helpful direction to funders, researchers and policy makers. The content is comprehensive and well synthesized from the responses to the consultation. The acceptance rate of 87% illustrates the importance of this topic. The authors are to be congratulated in gathering and publishing this information at this point in time.

- Discretionary Revisions

1. It would be helpful to reference the upcoming MDG deadline explicitly, especially as it relates to the next set of sustainable development goals, bridging the two.

2. The authors may consider adding a table or narrative information indicating the geographic distribution of the 26 researchers from Low and Middle Income Countries. While there is significant consensus in the group of 26, there is no information about whether they have worked in several countries, only their own country or where they are based. If such information is provided, it would be important to highlight the significant consensus of the group in many areas.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.