Reviewer’s report

Title: Healthcare provider's attitude towards disability and experience of women with disabilities in the use of maternal healthcare service in rural Nepal

Version: 0 Date: 12 Apr 2017

Reviewer: Ana Pilar Betran

Reviewer’s report:

This is mixed methods research with a qualitative and quantitative components to investigate attitudes and behaviour of healthcare providers towards disabled patients/clients. The manuscript is well written and easy to understand and followed.

How was the sample size calculated? I think this should be explained in the methodology. Also, what was the refusal rate? Did all the healthcare providers approached accepted to participate in the study?

Authors acknowledged that their manuscript is concerned with disability in general rather than with any specific type of disability although attitudes may vary widely according to the type. Recognizing this limitation, I wonder if authors could provide in the quotes of the qualitative interviews the type of disability the women had. I noticed that when the disability is blindness, this is mentioned in the reference of the quote but nothing is mentioned when it is other type of disability. Is there a reason for this? It would be useful for the reader to contextualize the quote to this respect.

Authors reflect in the discussion (page 21-22, line 506-514) the poor working conditions of the health care providers as a cause for the negative attitudes. I think this is an important point this is something non-disabled women are exposed to as well. Disrespect, abuse and rudeness don't fall exclusively on disabled women but unfortunately is widespread to all women (See WHO Statement on The prevention and elimination of disrespect and abuse during facility-based childbirth http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/134588/1/WHO_RHR_14.23_eng.pdf?ua=1&ua=1)

Minor comments/typos:

- Authors have a "background" and an "introduction" section separately. What is the purpose of separating these two?

- The final questionnaire/took (including the adaptations) would be useful to have it as an Annex if available in English

- Page 7 line 145: … to fill this gap by conducting a study that attempts to answer…. I think for clarity, here it should be mentioned that the authors are conducting a mixed-methods study/survey
- Page 7 line 158: Is there one or several NGOs?

- Page 8 line 171-172: this sentence is not clear to me. Something is missing. How many providers were selected from health facilities having four staff or less?

- Page 9 line 191: there is a typo: forms not formats

- Page 9 line 196-199: this paragraph is not clear. Maybe authors can edit?

- Page 12 line 261: I think it could be some error with the numbering of the figure. It is the first figure but it is call Figure 11 and page 28, Figure 12. Also, the axis should only go up to 100% (not 120%).

- Page 12 line 259: 57.8% while in the Figure in page 28 it says 58.8%

- Table 3: Please spell out abbreviations as Table footnotes. For the sake of clarity, Tables should be self-sufficient.

- Page 18 line 431: please add the relevant references to this statement "Literature reported the provider's ATDP scores consistently greater than 100.

- Page 22 line 516: Authors acknowledged that this study is confined to one district. However, are there reasons to think that this is a very particular district in Nepal and their findings are likely to not be generalizable to other regions in Nepal or, on the contrary, studies in other districts would likely result in similar findings?

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