Reviewer’s report

Title: Midwives' respect and disrespect of women during facility-based childbirth in urban Tanzania: a qualitative study

Version: 0 Date: 05 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Charity Ndwiga

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5 Sept, 2017

Dear Editor,

RE: Manuscript Number: REPH-D-17-00189; Midwives' Respect and Disrespect of Women during Facility-Based Childbirth in Urban Tanzania: A Qualitative Study

Thanks you for your opportunity to review this great paper. See my comments below

Comment 1: Page 7 line 85 women's underutilization of health facilities (10)): if possible add a few more references as there much more evidence on this

Comment 2: Page 10 line 152 to 153: "when she agreed. We obtained voluntary agreement on the informed consent form before data collection from 14 midwives; eight from one facility and five from another one, meeting the inclusion criteria. Was each midwife observed only once (while conducting only one delivery) if yes please state so.

Comment 3: On time used to conduct observations women Page 11 line 161: "Observations lasted anywhere from two hours until the end of delivery". It is bit unclear add the specific time period. For example from 2 to 4 hours...

Comment 4: "The researcher memorized what had transpired from the time of admission to the first through fourth stage of labor of consenting women and their participating midwives" Page 11 line 164 to 166. Was there a guide to use in making the note referred to as fair copies? If yes how was it applied? If no what was the reason for this? Would be nice to state this here as well a part of the limitations

Comment 5: "When questions related to midwife's action emerged, this researcher interviewed her on the scene or after the observations." Page 11 line 167-168 other studies have noted that providers become defensive, did this action affect your data collection in any way particularly if same providers were observed twice.
Comment 6: Page 28 line 506. "observed in this study" Is it possible that some women experienced both respectful and disrespect in the course of labour. This would be an important finding to show if occurred and is it by majority of women or just a few or many times to one woman.

Comment 7: Page 30 line 530 - 532. "The typed of physical abuse, that is also malpractice, could be regarded as one of the WHO's categorized D & A behaviors that women were unaware of as D & A [30]."Good discussion point - this has huge implications on women rights and providers ethical conduct."

Comment 8: Page 31 line 551 - 553 "The category named 'lacking accountability for midwifery practice and no duty assignment', resulted from a disorganized and dysfunctional nursing and midwifery management, facility culture, or work overload, rather than from midwives' individual lack of ethical behaviors." good observation but please read Freedman L, R.K., 2014. 92(12): p. 915-7. Would that fall under commission or commission for standard of care? It would be nice to see how it complement your new category you discuss here

With warm regards

Charity Ndwiga

Level of interest
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article of importance in its field

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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