

Reviewer's report

Title: Information needs of health workers in developing countries - a literature review with a focus on Africa

Version: 1 **Date:** 4 November 2008

Reviewer: Regina Ungerer

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions (which the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

1) Purpose of the review

The authors provided two purposes for the review, but in fact, it states that the paper will focus on just one.

Therefore, I suggest that the second purpose be removed from the text to avoid confusion.

Suggestion of purpose.

The purpose of this review is to provide preliminary information about the information needs of healthcare providers in developing countries, and to highlight ways to address the issue.

2) The secondary objective, to be addressed if time allowed, was to ask: "what strategies have been used to meet the informational needs of health workers in developing countries (identifying and packaging appropriate content based on real needs, nurturing information-consuming behavior, and utilizing cost-effective media to reach the intended audience)".

This objective was not addressed and therefore should be removed.

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Information and learning needs

Second paragraph

5th line

"that the country was is being ravaged....." suppress the is.

Discretionary Revisions (which are recommendations for improvement but which the author can choose to ignore)

None

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'