

Reviewer's report

Title: Equity-oriented toolkit for health technology assessment and knowledge translation: application to scaling up of training and education for health workers

Version: 2 **Date:** 12 December 2008

Reviewer: Leonila Dans

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Discretionary Revisions:

Page 3: "Pull factors such as tax-free incomes, higher salaries, and better working conditions exacerbate the shortages." – Clarify this statement.

Page 7: "Thus, the results of needs assessments can be used by policy makers and educators to prioritize areas for scaling-up." – This is on the assumption that there is just shortage. Suggest to include possibility of redistribution.

Page 8: It is confusing when the EOT is used in the context of HRH. I assume all the concepts should apply to HRH. When talking about the components of "community effectiveness", the authors talk about looking for effective educational interventions for HRH then the rest of the components identified actual patient adherence, etc. Shouldn't this be referring to HRH adherence, provider (government/trainor?) compliance, etc.?

Pages 9-18: "Application of the EOT". Clarify the areas where equity will have a role in each of the steps. Example: In creating a national planning authority, how will equity be considered? Maybe in choice of key players.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest 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'