Reviewer's report

Title: Advances in childhood immunisation in South Africa: where to now? Programme managers' views and evidence from systematic reviews

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Reviewer: Mohammad Khan

Reviewer's report:

The authors have addressed the comments and the manuscript is in good shape. However, I am having difficulty in understanding the way the tables have been organized. To me, there were 6 respondents in the first round. However the count for first response in table 2 "Insufficient knowledge of vaccines and EPI practices among staff" is 13. Is repetition of the response possible for one individual? Apart from the numbers, what is more important is the ranking of these responses by the program managers. How many times the first response was ranked one?

Similarly in table 4, it will be interesting to see how many of the program managers suggested the intervention "Training, supportive supervision, and audit and feedback" for "Insufficient knowledge of vaccines and immunisation"?

In discussion, the authors raise a very important point when they say, "In selecting which combination of interventions to use for which community and at which time point, decision makers would need to consider population characteristics, available resources, and competing priorities." It needs to be clarified how these findings can help in recommending a single step or multiple steps for national as well as provincial managers and policy makers for improving immunization coverage and how the evidence from other countries is applicable to their country.

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 no competing interest.