Reviewer's report

**Title:** Male circumcision for HIV prevention - A cross-sectional study on awareness among young people and adults in rural Uganda

**Version:** 4  **Date:** 13 January 2010

**Reviewer:** Christine Mattson

**Reviewer’s report:**

I think this revised manuscript has dramatically improved when compared to the original submission. The authors have clearly spent quite a bit of time incorporating the reviewers' suggestions and I am pleased with the changes. That said, I found several grammatical errors throughout the manuscript and I encourage the authors to carefully review the document and incorporate necessary corrections.

- **Major Compulsory Revisions**

1) Currently, the logistic regression analyses for adults and youth are not presented in a similar format and are still somewhat confusing. ORs are presented for youth, but are lacking for adults. If the authors choose to include ORs for youth, they should also be included for adults.

- **Minor Essential Revisions**

2) Table 1: Please provide the total sample sizes for youth and adults in the first row. In order to improve readability, please also present the results in the customary manner so that the N is listed in the first column and the % is provided next. Also, the last column should have a heading listed as p-value.

3) I believe that another limitation of the study is the relatively small sample size for some of the analyses. Some estimates were not provided since the authors were unable to calculate them due to small sample sizes. Perhaps, the authors could try to collapse categories and recode some of the variables, but at the very least, this should be noted as a limitation.

- **Discretionary Revisions**

4) Once confidence interval is spelled out once, please abbreviate to CI

5) On page 4, I believe 7 lines up from the bottom of the page "Rakai, men start..." should read "Rakai, men started..."

6) On page 6, there is a full stop (.) missing after "sample size of n=383. We added 15%..."

7) On page 7, under "Assessment of socio-demographic variables" I think it would be helpful to state explicitly the primary outcome (e.g. awareness of MC...
for HIV prevention) variable rather than say "primary outcome variable.

8) On the bottom of page 8, last line, the sentence should read, "The majority of respondents (65.0%) were (not was) circumcised by a traditional healer."

9) On page 14, I think words are missing from the sentence "Assessing awareness of study participants MC reduces the risk..." Please revise

10) On page 15, in the last paragraph, I don't believe parentheses are needed around (traditionally non-circumcision) participants.

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

None