Reviewer's report

Title: Gender Variations in Access, Choice to use and Cleaning of Shared Latrines; Experiences from Kampala Slums, Uganda

Version: 5 Date: 19 October 2014

Reviewer: Leanne E Unicomb

Reviewer's report:

As noted previously, this is an excellent piece of work and those working on urban shared sanitation will find it a useful reference. The quotations included are excellent. There are just a few residual points that will improve clarity.

Minor essential revisions

Methods;

In the last paragraph of page 7, there is a description of community transects. The information on those who were key informants seems misplaced at the end of this paragraph, unless there is a linking sentence that makes this an appropriate inclusion here.

There is some text missing in the third sentence of page 8 as it is not clear what is meant.

I had previously suggested ‘It is not clear how the literature review was part of the methods, presumably to inform development of interview guideline themes. I would omit this.’ Reviewing the literature is a normal research process when developing studies and their instruments. I think some text to elaborate how the literature review was more than the usual requirements would be useful.

Results:

As noted in the previous review, the early sentences at the beginning of this section better suit the discussion than the results. Perhaps this needs an editorial decision

On page 15, I would not refer to a potty as a household utensil. Perhaps a household device?

I had originally suggested that Figure II be omitted as it was not referred in the text. I think that this is an interesting proposal and a great contribution for the shared sanitation research area. On a minor point, when referring to the continuum include ‘(Figure II)” to enhance recognition of the model.

The conclusion section needs some English streamlining.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
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:
I declare that I have no competing interests