Reviewer’s report

Title: Have young men been targeted to change risk behaviours? A scoping review of the literature.

Version: 2 Date: 8 June 2014

Reviewer: Annette Joy Braunack-Mayer

Reviewer’s report:

This paper is a scoping review of interventions targeting risk behaviours in young adult males. The question is clearly defined and described in the paper and the methods used are appropriate. The concerns that I have are focused around specific points as outlined below.

Minor Essential Revisions:

1. The exclusion of low to middle income countries is reasonable but ought to be mentioned in the abstract, at least, and preferably in the title.

2. Study design: Given the complex and socially situated nature of risk behaviours in this study population, it is possible that important studies were missed by excluding qualitative research. I am not suggesting that the paper needs to be rewritten to incorporate qualitative studies. However, the limitations of the study should at least acknowledge this problem and describe the ways in which a qualitative scoping review might have led to different outcomes.

3. The lack of theoretical frameworks is interesting (and problematic). Could the authors please comment on why they think this may be the case? Also, please provide more detail on the reasons why certain types of interventions lack reference to theoretical frameworks. Is this linked to point 2 concerning the lack of qualitative studies?

4. As most of the studies were face-to-face, the gender of the facilitator is important. Could the authors comment on the likely importance of gender for studies where there is no face-to-face contact between researchers and participants, for example in on-line research?

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

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