Reviewer's report

**Title:** Building better systems of care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people: findings from the Kanyini Health Systems Assessment

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 6 February 2012

**Reviewer:** Marilyn Wise

**Reviewer's report:**

The questions posed by this study are well defined, and address contemporary policy and practice issues of great contemporary relevance and importance. The description of the methods used (including ethics approval), and of the data collection and analysis processes is detailed and of very high quality.

The findings are reported clearly and succinctly. Indeed, the paper is a model of high quality reporting on the analysis and results of a qualitative study. The discussion and conclusions are thoughtful and propose useful directions for policy actors, in particular, seeking to improve the reach and quality of health care offered to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in remote, rural and urban communities.

The paper describes the use of the theories both to describe and understand a problem (or problems), and to propose positive actions to overcome these. It is an exemplary study for these reasons - in addition to adding new scientific knowledge to the body of evidence available to policy actors, service managers, and clinical/health practitioners to guide their decisions.

This is a well designed, well conducted, and well analysed and reported study that is a model of its kind. I recommend it for publication without revision.

**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.