Reviewer's report

**Title:** Aboriginal-mainstream partnerships: Exploring the challenges and enhancers of a collaborative service arrangement for Aboriginal clients with substance use issues

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 17 August 2012

**Reviewer:** Jillian (Jill) Guthrie

**Reviewer's report:**

Discretionary Revisions

The table appearing in the Background (on page 4 of manuscript) does not currently have a title. The convention would be to give it a title, which I would endorse.

Under the heading Methods (on page 5 of manuscript) 3rd paragraph, 2nd sentence: Currently that sentence reads, 'Data was ...'. Should be 'Data were ...')

Under heading Divergent views regarding staff skills and competencies, 3rd paragraph (on page 8 of manuscript): currently sentence reads, 'Previous studies suggest that limited understanding of the practical skills ...'. I suggest this be revised to read, 'Previous studies suggest that limited understanding by non-Aboriginal practitioners ....'

Page 10 of manuscript, 2nd paragraph starting, 'The rehabilitation service providers ...' There are two typos in this paragraph. One is on 8th line down ..., 2nd is 10th line down.

Under heading titled 'Client behaviour and colonial footprints', 2nd paragraph on page 11 of manuscript, 3rd line down. Reference to 'stolen generation'. I suggest this be given capitals, ie, Stolen Generations' and be explained to an international audience.

In that same paragraph, 8th line down, I suggest that in the phrase, '.... ACT staff who felt some Aboriginal clients needed to be admitted immediately but managed differently.' that the words 'admitted' and 'managed' be in italics, in order to emphasise the point that is being made.

Table 1: currently the 1st theme is titled 'poor knowledge of partner service' However in the text, this is called 'limited' knowledge of partner service (although under the heading of Poor knowledge ...(Page 7 of manuscript).

I suggest make the word consistent, and use 'limited'.

I hope these editorial suggestions are clearly states, and are helpful.

**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 that I have no competing interests.