Reviewer's report

Title: Policy actors' perspectives on the role of stakeholders in Knowledge translation in health policy development in Uganda:

Version: 2 Date: 6 November 2012

Reviewer: Ellen McIntyre

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for the opportunity to review this interesting manuscript. It adds to the body of knowledge on the roles of stakeholders in knowledge translation in health policy development in particular to the potential negative and inappropriate roles stakeholders may play. I also note that you have already addressed a reviewer's concerns which has improved the manuscript. However, I have further suggestions for your consideration.

Major Compulsory Revisions - none

Minor essential revisions

1. The title states "policy actors' but it is not clear what this means. Indeed, the term "actors" is used more than policy actors throughout the text, so perhaps consider if the title could be "Perspectives on the role of stakeholders in knowledge translation in health policy development in Uganda" and then adapt the text accordingly.

2. Please indicate how many interviews were conducted in the abstract.

3. The results in the abstract do not reflect anything on the negative roles you identified. Could this be included or at least acknowledged. Currently it looks more like a summary of your literature review than a summary of your key findings.

4. It would help if the same terms for the different stakeholders were used consistently throughout the manuscript both in the text and in the tables. This makes it easier for the reader.

5. Methods section: From the literature review, you identified 9 different stakeholders, yet you only interviewed people from 4 of these stakeholder groups - health policy makers, researchers, media and parliamentarians. What was the rationale for this?

6. Results section: Can you provide some idea of the length of the interviews please?

7. Table 1. This could include more information from the text (which means you can then take out that text) and perhaps consider restructuring it according to the stakeholder groups (make this column 1) you interviewed along with how long
each has held their post while still retaining the information already in this table.

8. Table 2. While this focuses on the positive and negative roles, could you consider including some of the barriers, limitations and challenges that these stakeholders face (another column)? You mention them in the text but I believe it would be useful to the reader if they were summarised in this table too. They are part of the key findings of this study.

9. I note some minor grammatical and spelling errors in the text and references that require attention.

10. Could you please check all references to ensure the reader can access them using the information you have provided?

Thank you

**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