**Reviewer’s report**

**Title:** `Whose Shoes? ` Can an educational board game engage Ugandan men in pregnancy and childbirth?

**Version: 1 Date: 11 Dec 2017**

**Reviewer:** Annika Åhman

**Reviewer's report:**

**General comment**

This paper is well written and I have only a few comments.

Studies on the value of educational board games for health care professionals' and their patients' has been published since the mid-1990th. Development of educational games for patients and their kin seems especially valuable in cultures where men do not engage much in pregnancy issues and child health care. It is important though that interventions such as educational board games are evaluated in different cultures and settings, and that this pilot study will be followed up with further investigation in low income settings.

**Background, third paragraph**

First sentence: Maternal health programmes are increasingly looking for innovative approaches to engage with couples/families and communities to improve health outcomes for pregnant women.

Should it be: Developers of maternal health programmes are ……..

Second sentence: reference 14 is duplicated

**Results**

Paragraph 1) Aspects of the game that aided men’s understanding / Learning aids used / Little shoes,

Last sentence: In addition, men quickly decided on what team they wanted to be on based on one’s favourite colour such as blue, yellow, green and red is unclear and need to be clarified. What is does the "team" mean hear? It would be of value to give some examples.
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.
Unable to assess

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.
Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.
Not relevant to this manuscript

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:
Acceptable

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?
2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?
3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?
4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?
5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?
6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?
If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal