Reviewer’s report

Title: A program to respond to otitis media in remote Australian Aboriginal communities: a qualitative investigation of parent perspectives

Version: 1 Date: 14 Jun 2017

Reviewer: Justine Dol

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for the opportunity to review this manuscript again. The objective of this study was to explore caregivers' views about an inclusive, parent-implemented early childhood program (the LiTTLe Program) for 0-3 years in an Aboriginal community health context. It is clear that the authors have taken into serious consideration previous feedback and the manuscript can now be recommendation as acceptable for publication pending minor revisions. A few suggestions that the authors should consider include:

- Removing repetition within the manuscript of items stated elsewhere. For instance, on page 16, lines 18-25, the authors list the general questions asked in the interview but with the addition of the interview guide in the Appendix, the specific questions asked are no longer needed in the manuscript text. Likewise, the paragraphs on overview views on page 15, lines 31-53 are repetitive of Table 2, and thus could be shortened.

- The discussion has significantly improved in the revised manuscript. However, the discussion does not follow the results section and should be revised to more clearly follow the main themes (i.e., overall views, views about speech and language strategies, views about hearing health and interventions, school readiness, program implementation and ideas for the future). Currently there is no clear flow from the results to the discussion.

- Also in the discussion, new results were introduced on page 34, lines 39-44 on the fact that parents knew possible indicators of OM, which was not mentioned previously. This should be added to the results or reworked in the discussion.

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.

Yes
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.

I am able to assess the statistics

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