Reviewer's report

Title: Drowning in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and Adolescents in Queensland (Australia)

Version: 3
Date: 1 June 2015
Reviewer: Jonathon Webber

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions:

Minor Essential Revisions:

1. [L46] - Sentence appears to contradict itself.

2. [L237] - Throughout the paper there appear to be a number of words in capital that should not be eg. Remoteness, Regional, Indigenous, Major Cities etc.

3. [Figure 2] - This graph is difficult to read with the numerical values on top of the bars. Is there another format that can be used to present this data?

Discretionary Revisions:

4. [L38] - Do you mean risk, if so would this be better expressed as risk ratio?

5. [L51] - Consider inserting p-value.

6. [L56] - This is not a conclusion.

7. [L57] - Not all readers may understand "survival ratio". Consider explaining in full what these numbers mean ie. For every fatal drowning there are 9 non-fatal events.

8. [L79] - Consider stating the actual rates.

9. [L69] - Was the intent of this statement to convey that drowning is amongst the 5th leading causes of mortality in Australia. Also is this unintentional death or all forms of mortality? Consider revising.

10. [L354] - Are these rates per 100,000? If so, this needs to be expressed.

11. [L359] - Is there a p-value missing here?

12. [L409] - Lifeguard is one word.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being
published

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.