Reviewer’s report

Title: School-based intervention promotes healthy behavior on screen-time among Ecuadorian adolescents: a cluster-randomized controlled trial

Version: 1 Date: 17 May 2015

Reviewer: Freya MacMillan

Reviewer’s report:

Thank you for the opportunity to review this paper. The authors should be commended on the development and undertaking of a large and very important intervention for adolescents, delivered via a school setting. This paper is written very concisely and clearly. I have only minor comments to make:

Minor essential revisions

• A research question is not clearly provided in the introduction. The methods are appropriate and described and the data appear sound.

• British spelling rather than American should be used throughout (e.g. randomised and not randomized; analyse and not analyse; minimise and not minimize; organised and not organized; programme not program).

• Page 3, line 30: ‘….IN interventions improves…’ rather than ‘on interventions’

• Page 6, line 92: missing a word at the end of the sentence (e.g. ‘….Planning and Evaluation TOOL…’)

• Page 9, line 172: missing a word ‘…using A crude model.’ The final sentence on this page does not make sense – what are ‘absolute risk ones?’ Page 10, line 179: what does ‘31,6’ mean here? Line 191: missing word ‘….by means OF the creation….’ And later in the sentence ‘and equal TO 18 when…’

• Page 13, line 242: the title of this section should be ‘SENSITIVITY’ and not ‘sensitive.’

• Page 13, line 255: ‘s’ needs to be added to the end of ‘adolescent.’ Line 260: ‘…WHILST IN the second stage.’ Page 14, line 275: insert ‘programme’ after ‘Planet Health’ and in line 276 insert ‘the’ before DOiT program. Page 16, line 314: ‘…effort INTO developing…’. Line 320 on page 16 needs more detail – what do you mean by similar studies? Studies targeting sedentary behaviour reduction in schools or just in general?

• I think it’s important to mention the fact that you included three time points as a strength – without the 18 month the positive effect on sedentary behaviour would have been missed. Future studies needs to include short-term data collection time points to avoid missing effects in these types of studies.

• Reference format needs to be updated. (e.g. references are not double spaced, journal titles are not in italics, article titles are not in bold, journal abbreviations are not used).
**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**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.