**Reviewer’s report**

**Title:** The Picture Talk Project: Aboriginal Community Input on Consent for Research

**Version:** 0  **Date:** 06 Sep 2018

**Reviewer:** Rebecca Pentz

**Reviewer's report:**

This is important research that could be very useful to other researchers. However, the report needs some revision to be useful.

The introduction describing how this project fits into the larger project could be much shorter and clearer. Right now it is a bit convoluted. I recommend simply stating that it was one aim of a larger study, describe the larger study very briefly and then state that this manuscript reports the focus group results. In the methodology it should be made clear exactly how the interviews informed the questions asked in the focus groups. The themes that emerged from the interviews are not clear - they are just listed with no explanation - nor is it clear how the themes are linked to the focus group questions. I assume the interviews came first even though line 216 says:

"Aboriginal leaders advised that it was preferable that participants be invited to participate in a focus group discussion rather than a one to one interview." I guess that advice came too late???

The word frequency report at this point does not add to the results. I would omit it.

In order for this report to be most useful, the points learned that future researchers can use need to be clearly listed and recommendation made. Right now, it is not clear whether photographs or cartoons were preferred by most, or if both could be used as long as there were no photographs of the deceased. Also do you recommend that photos of local people be used or not given the comment in line 420 about jealousy? It is not at all clear how the theme "achieving consensus in circles" is useful to researchers. Please explain. Last, the ideas for future research include health concerns that could be directly addressed without future research. for example, building a youth center or setting up alcohol counseling centers. I suggest separating the research suggestions from the lists of health concern unless the health concern cannot be addressed without future research. I recommend making it very clear what future research is being suggested.

There are several minor edits needed:

1. This focus group question is unclear -how does it differ from the Navigator question?: Line 228 *If there was someone to discuss the research with to seek advice about participating
2. What does "on country" mean in line 291 groups of community members from a particular language group were to conducted on country

3. "carer" is usually describe as "caregiver" - is that what it means Line 393 "photo of a child being examined by the doctor with his carer present"

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

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

No

**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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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