Reviewer's report

Title: Developing a tablet computer based application ('App') to measure self-reported alcohol consumption in Indigenous Australians

Version: 0 Date: 09 Jul 2017

Reviewer: Ho Chun Man Roger

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for inviting me to review the paper on "Developing a tablet computer based application ('App') to measure self-reported alcohol consumption in Indigenous Australians." This is an important paper to discuss how health professionals to reach people who are Indigenous and stay in remote areas. Alcohol misuse is an important health problem affecting Indigenous people. I have the following recommendations to enrich the introduction and discussion of this paper.

1. Under introduction, the second paragraph, the authors mentioned that it is challenging to estimate alcohol level. The authors need to know more about alcohol levels. Please insert the following in Line 26 (Pg 1):

A small glass (125ml) of wine contains about 1.5 units of alcohol. The hazardous levels are 21-50 units for men and 14-35 units for women. The harmful levels are more than 50 units for men and 35 units for women (Puri et al 2014).


2. Under introduction, the second paragraph, the authors highlighted the difficulty to read number of alcohol units.

3. Under introduction, the third paragraph, the authors need to provide more information about other studies on smartphone applications to help people with drinking problem. I recommend the authors to add the following (line 61):
Further, previous research has demonstrated that alcohol tracker applications installed on smartphone is accepted by people with drinking problems worldwide (Zhang et al 2016a). Women indicated that notification service about alcohol intake was the most useful function, while men preferred the information on the risks associated with alcohol abuse (Zhang et al 2016b).

Please include the following important references:


4. There remains inconclusive evidence regarding interventions for substance abuse among indigenous adults worldwide due to a small and methodologically weak evidence-base (Leske et al 2016). The authors should include this important finding in the fourth paragraph under Introduction and this finding justifies for the current study.

Please include the following important reference:


5. Under discussion, Pg 18, line 28, future application, the authors should discuss that how smartphone applications can be used to design interventional trial for indigenous adults suffering from alcohol misuse (Zhang et al 2017).

Please include the following important references:

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?
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Yes

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