Reviewer's report

Title: Findings from the SASA! Study: a cluster randomised controlled trial to assess the impact of a community mobilisation intervention to prevent violence against women and reduce HIV risk in Kampala, Uganda

Version: 2 Date: 3 May 2014

Reviewer: Nancy Glass

Reviewer's report:

This is an excellent study and was a pleasure to review the manuscript. The authors have carefully detailed the strengths and limitations of the study design, methods and analysis. As noted by the authors, this study is an important advancement for the field of violence and HIV prevention research. I have suggestions only for discretionary revisions.

Discretionary revision:
It would be helpful to provide an example of how the outcome, "Appropriate community response to women experiencing physical and/or sexual IPV in past year" was defined in the manuscript.

Increase explanation/rationale of the SASA! focus on power rather than gender and how different from other violence prevention programs - brief mention in description of SASA and then again in lessons learned - but remains unclear how this may have influenced engagement of community in SASA! and thus the outcomes.

The mention of the qualitative data in the discussion could be removed as does not provide any additional information related to outcomes.

The lessons learned in field section is interesting but seems to be the focus of another manuscript, as the lessons are not clearly linked to the study outcomes. Perhaps focusing more on implications of the findings for future prevention HIV/IPV research, funding, and policies would be more useful.

Level of interest: An exceptional article

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests