Reviewer's report

Title: Improving Local Health through Community Health Workers in Cambodia: Challenges and Solutions

Version: 1  Date: 05 Apr 2017

Reviewer: Mary Lyons

Reviewer's report:

Line 36, page 2. Should be a full stop after communities. Then new sentence with comma after However ie 'However, …'

Line 5, page 3. Again, not good use of however. Needs to be a full stop before and comma after.

Line 52, page 4. Comma needed after improvements,

Line 55, page 4. Probably should capitalise Western Pacific as it is the name of this region.

Line 1, page 5. Usually ageing in UK English is spelt with an e rather than aging which is used in America or Australia

Line 10, page 7. Again, need full stop before however and new sentence, with comma after the However,

Line 33, page 7. Spell out CPPH in full initially. Also remove inappropriate use of however on this line.

Line 38, page 7. come rather than comes

Line 22, page 8. Suggests rather than suggest

Line 48, page 8. First sentence needs rewording as it is not clear . Commas also needed in appropriate places. Why should collecting data at the same time facilitate a broader understanding of key themes?
Line 5, page 9. Reword final part of sentence, as it is not clear why or how these differences can achieve a transferability?

Line 10, page 9. I am really concerned that the researchers consider it unnecessary to gain ethical committee approval. Although this research is as evaluation, it is generating new data and involves human subjects. Surely there is University ethical committee approval for the PhD from the University, and this work could be included in that?

Inconsistent capitalisation throughout - especially in headings and the tables is still an issue and has not been corrected.

In methods section, need some detail about how and where translation was used, was the data analysed in language or transcribed and translated and then analysed? Is there a risk that some things were lost in translation?

Line 23, page 11. This paragraph needs rewording. This is meant to be the findings, and should not be making recommendations. The quote that follows suggests something about the rewards that CHWs receive for encouraging mothers to attend the HC, but the words are about communication. It does not follow on or make sense. The quote should exemplify the findings.

Is there a difference between a CHW and a VHSG? If so, make this clear, but if not, then use the same nomenclature throughout

Line 36, page 14, were rather than was. Also, 'lack of belief and respect of' does not sound right. Maybe lack of respect for would be better. There is quite a bit of repetition in this paragraph to the end of the page. Maybe try to condense this?

The final chapter on page 15 could do with some suitable quotes to support these arguments.

Page 16. Solutions section. Need to make it clear that these are still the findings and that these are the views of the CHWs rather than established health promotion theory or fact.

Discussion section - page 18. First line. Would displayed be better than portrayed? Remove used and have in this sentence, as they are unnecessary and cause confusion.
This discussion section is inadequate and needs far greater reference back to health promotion literature, theory and principles.

Line 50 onwards, Pages 18 - 21. These sections need to be reworded/rewritten. The overarching content is fine, but there are lots of minor grammatical and punctuation errors and the language needs tidying and tightening.

The word 'however' is consistently used incorrectly. In most cases it need a full stop before, and a comma afterwards, but there are numerous incidences of this error that need to be corrected.

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An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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