

Reviewer's report

Title: Tobacco cessation Clinical Practice Guideline use in rural and urban hospital nurses: A pre-implementation needs assessment

Version: 5 **Date:** 11 January 2012

Reviewer: Virginia Rice

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I think that the authors have done a terrific job in responding to the concerns of myself and the other reviewer. However, I am still very troubled with the 'planned comparison' of 13 rural hospitals and 1 urban hospital when there is no way to determine the representativeness of any of the hospitals.

Question #7 could be to "Examine the similarities and difference of the nurses who worked in the rural hospitals compared to those who worked in a very large urban one."

By the way did the authors look at the inter-hospital differences among the nurses who worked at just the rural ones? [The authors are assuming these groups of rural nurses are similar.]