Author's response to reviews

Title: Quitline Referral vs. Self-help Manual for Tobacco Use Cessation in the Emergency Department: A Prospective Pilot Study

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Please find enclosed the revision requested for our manuscript entitled “Quitline Referral vs. Self-help Manual for Tobacco Use Cessation in the Emergency Department: a prospective pilot study.” We have registered it as requested with ClinicalTrials.gov with Trial Registration NCT00394420.

The purpose of this preliminary randomized, controlled study was to evaluate the feasibility of enrolling cigarette smokers in a tobacco quitline through the ED and to assess the feasibility of a larger randomized controlled trial assessing the efficacy of this intervention. We were particularly interested in assessing the compliance rate with fax-referral for proactive quitline counseling because previous studies referring patients for in person clinic counseling have shown that ED patients have zero compliance with these types of referral. Our hope was that the convenience of telephone counseling and the proactive initiation of contact by the quitline would improve participation in counseling. This is particularly important in light of the recent American College of Emergency Physicians task force statement that smokers presenting to the emergency department should all be given advice to quit and referral to a quitline.

There has been no prior publication of this data and there are no copyright constraints. We have no conflict of interest to declare.

Please let me know if there is anything else that you need. We would be delighted and honored to publish our paper in BMC Emergency Medicine.

Sincerely,

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