Reviewer's report

**Title:** Discussing patient's lifestyle choices in the consulting room: analysis of GP-patient consultations between 1975 and 2008

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 12 May 2010

**Reviewer:** Carlos Brotons

**Reviewer's report:**

A more detailed explanation in methods of the different studies conducted by NIVEL should be done, emphasizing the differences among the studies. This is relevant if studies are going to be compared.

Videotape consultations were reviewed by several observers. How many? The same number for each period? Interrater reliability only for the period 2007-2008. What about the rest of the periods?

Sample size for patients and physicians differ among periods, especially for the period 1982-1984 and 2000-2001. Results should be weighted by to sample size. For example, in table 4 the Overall result is only the crude mean and not the weighted mean. If OR and CI were calculated using logistic regression, theses results could be included in table 4 instead of including in the text.

What does it mean that there is a linear time trends regarding the discussion of smoking………………

Looking at the results of table 4 it seems there is not a continuous increases of the percentage although overall it could seem there is an increase, especially when calculation the OR.

The most important result shown in table 5 is that in most of the cases lifestyle behaviour is not discussed, and should be emphasized.

Table 7: what does it mean *no education

In discussion also should be mentioned that in just a small % GPs or patients take the initiative to discuss lifestyle behaviour.

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

'I declare that I have no competing interests'