Reviewer's report

Title: Measuring the Costs of Outreach Motivational Interviewing for Smoking-Cessation and Relapse-Prevention Among Low-Income Pregnant Women

Version: 5 Date: 21 July 2009

Reviewer: Pierre Alexandre

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Minor Essential Revisions:
I want to call attention about some statements that seem incorrect.

a) On page 5 of the revised manuscript, the author states that “we cannot rely on prices to value resources in the economic evaluation of medical and public health interventions”. Even when markets are not perfectly competitive, we still can use prices to evaluate resources. Indeed, this paper uses prices to value resources when the authors multiply price of labor unit (hourly wage rate) and staff time.

b) The first two sentences on page 6. Too many key factors are needed for “the most efficient and equitable resource allocation to reduce smoking”. The sentence “This article aims to address these gaps in the literature” should be rephrased to emphasize that it is only a contribution toward that goal.

c) The last two sentences in the discussion section (page 22) must also be rephrased as they seem to suggest that micro-costing can provide information on costs and benefits of the programs discussed.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

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