Author's response to reviews

Title: Risk Factors for Methamphetamine Use in Youth: A Systematic Review

Authors:

Kelly Russell (krussell@ualberta.ca)
Donna M Dryden (ddryden@ualberta.ca)
Yuanyuan Liang (yliang@ualberta.ca)
Carol Friesen (carol_friesen@hotmail.com)
Kathleen O'Gorman (kogorman@ualberta.ca)
Tamara Durec (Tamara.Durec@capitalhealth.ca)
T Cameron Wild (cam.wild@ualberta.ca)
Terry P Klassen (terry.klassen@ualberta.ca)

Version: 3 Date: 11 August 2008

Author's response to reviews: see over
August 11, 2008

Dear Editor,

Thank you for the Reviewer’s Report for Risk Factors for Methamphetamine Use in Youth: A Systematic Review MS: 9253989911934705. As per the reviewers’ suggestions, we have made the following changes that are presented in quotes:

REVIEWER 1
No changes were suggested.

REVIEWER 2
Readers may be confused about descriptions in the Results section…It may be beneficial to modify the description in the Abstract and in texts.
   The following sentence has been added to the abstract:
   “Results were presented separately by comparison group: low-risk (no previous drug abuse) and high-risk children (reported previous drug abuse or were recruited from a juvenile detention center).”

The authors should add risky sexual behaviors in the Results section.
   The following result was added to the Results section:
   “sexual behavior (OR = 2.79; 95% CI: 2.25, 3.46)”

The reasons to examine the risk factors for adolescent methamphetamine use needs to be addressed.
   The following sentence was added to the Introduction:
   “If risk factors for MA use could be identified, physicians and other health care professionals who work with youth may be better equipped to identify MA users and develop education and prevention programs that could be targeted to youth at greater risk for using MA.”

The second paragraph in the Introduction: the citation needs to be corrected (9 4 10).
   This correction was made.

All Tables: it might be accurate to use “adolescents” instead of “children”.
   We have changed children to “youth” to incorporate both children and adolescents.

Table 2: the definitions of “primary risk factors” and “secondary risk factors” should be addressed.
   The column headings were changed to “Description of Primary Risk Factor(s) Reported in the Study” and “Additional Risk Factors Reported in the Study”.

Table 2, page 22: “low-risk children” should be corrected to “high-risk children”.
   This correction was made.
Table 2, page 20: Yen 2006: 40% used MA>4/month should be “used MA>4 times/month”

This correction was made.