Reviewer’s report

Title: Five-Factor Model personality profiles of drug users

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Reviewer: Filip De Fruyt

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Five-Factor Model personality profiles of drug users

This is an interesting study on the personality profiles of cigarette smokers, marijuana users, and cocaine users, using the NEO PI-R. I have nothing in particular to suggest for improving this paper. The paper is well written, analyses are appropriate and easy to follow, and the discussion closely focuses on the available data, highlighting limitations and clinical and policy implications.

The authors may want to consider three points:

(1) Is it possible to provide some information on the combined use of cigarettes, marijuana, and/or cocaine? As it stands now, personality profile descriptions are provided per product, but people may use all three. It would be interesting to see this overlap.

(2) Perhaps the East Baltimore Epidemiologic Catchment Area Study also includes information to further distinguish among the “current smoker group”. Then it would be interesting to split-up this particular group into a sample that simply smokes (and does not want to stop), and those who smoke currently, but have tried to stop previously or want to stop. It would be interesting to see these personality profiles as well.

(3) Give some extra comments on potential sex differences in smoking status. In many Western European countries smoking rates are higher in females. How about this sample?

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

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

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'