Reviewer's report

Title: Multi-level, cross-sectional study of workplace social capital and smoking among Japanese employees

Version: 1 Date: 25 June 2010

Reviewer: Jun Aida

Reviewer's report:

This is a generally well-written article that explores the role of social capital at a workplace- and individual-level on smoking behavior in Japan. Multilevel analyses were used to determine outcomes. The manuscript is a useful contribution to the literature. The study design is, on the whole, sound and appropriate analytical techniques are used.

1. Discretionary Revisions

I have one comment. Some studies showed the association between neighborhood-level socioeconomic status and health behavior (e.g. Int J Public Health. 2009;54(3):183-92.). Additional adjustment for company-level socioeconomic status might be showing a more precise picture of the association between company-level social capital and smoking.

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.