Reviewer's report

Title: What is behind smoker support for new smokefree areas? National survey data

Version: 2 Date: 7 July 2010

Reviewer: Janne Scheffels

Reviewer's report:

The authors have reviewed the paper according to my most important comments, that was to reduce the size and number of tables, and to rewrite the introduction and the discussion part to make the paper more focused and readable (comments 2-5). I think they have done this in a good way, that improves the article a lot.

As to my more suggestions of changes (comments 6-11), I am also satisfied with how they have met these.

Regarding the final comment about the possibly 'hardcore-smoking' minority. I agree that it is a good decision to take this out, as this as they say is a disputed concept, and the interpretation was quite speculative.

However, since they do find and discuss why the support is stronger among the maori/asian-population - I, as a foreigner, do get curious about how the differences between the European and these other population are, both regarding smoking prevalence and socioeconomic position. I believe that the maori population have lower SES and higher smoking levels than the European, is that so? I would give this information to the readers. And, are these differences in support something that one might expect to find in other low SES/high smoking populations also, or is this a very culturally specific tendency? A few sentences that reflect around this would be fine, in my opinion.

Level of interest: An article of importance 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