Reviewer's report

**Title:** Association between Smoking and Chronic Kidney Disease: a case control study

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 12 October 2010

**Reviewer:** Giovanni Tripepi

**Reviewer's report:**

In this study the authors investigated the association between smoking and chronic kidney disease by a case-control approach. They found that an increased odds for CKD in smokers than in non smokers.

The etiological role of smoking in the increased risk of CKD in the general population was already investigated in a large, historical cohort, by Fox (see JAMA 2004; 291: 844-850). Since the case-control approach is less sensitive to investigate casual-effect relationship and more susceptible to bias when compared to longitudinal studies I believe that this study does not add knowledge to the field.

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

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