Reviewer’s report

**Title:** The evaluation of a nationwide training program in smoking cessation and the trainees’ adherence to a practice guideline

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 14 September 2009

**Reviewer:** Pinpin Zheng

**Reviewer’s report:**

This manuscript evaluates a training program in smoking cessation as well as the confidence and adherence to the practice guideline. This version is better than the last one. However, there are still some points need to be addressed.

1. It mentioned that ‘for short term evaluation, all trainees in 2007 were recruited’ (line 9, page 3 and line 7, page 7), and ‘through December 2007, a total of 6009 physicians were certified.’ (line 5, page 6). However, there is also such a sentence that ‘there were 531 trainees certified by the training program in 2007’ (line 8, page 9). There seemed some inconsistency within these figures. Please check them to explain.

2. The content of table 3 is the repetition of Paragraph 3, page 10. I suggest that table 3 can be removed.

3. Line 5, page 13. ‘sex-hour’ should be ‘six hour’.

4. Paragraph 3 in the page 16. I think this paragraph should be abbreviated.

5. The title of this manuscript is ‘a nationwide training program’. In addition, in the first sentence in the discussion section, the authors mentioned that Taiwan is ‘the second country…..’. It is a political issue and might be very sensitive. I suggest that author pay attention to these words.

6. The title of table 6 is the predictors of the confidence scale and adherence scale. I suggest that the result of multiple regression models be presented here instead of one way Anova test. You can’t make a conclusion about the predictors by conducting one way Anova test.

7. The discussion part focuses on explaining the current result. However, as an evaluation study to the training, the authors should have some opinions for further practice. For example, how to prevent or decrease the decline of confidence to in providing services? Should we develop some curriculums on smoking cessation in the medical education? Answering these questions maybe very helpful for our health practitioners.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.