Reviewer's report

**Title:** How do psychosocial determinants in migrant women in the Netherlands differ from these among their counterparts in their country of origin? A cross-sectional study

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 9 March 2011

**Reviewer:** Lorraine Greaves

**Reviewer's report:**

Discretionary revisions:

The authors have modified the article to better reflect the complexity of the issues and circumstances that affect the patterns and trends of migrant tobacco use after migration. However, in so doing, they utilize a narrow and unhelpful term "lifestyle changes", to describe the situation confronting migrants post migration. This term implies that individuals exert choice, based on a set of choices in front of them in the destination country. This is only part of the story, and an oversimplification. The rest is that there are numerous psychosocial reasons underlying health behaviours such as smoking among women (such as identity formation, dealing with negative emotion) and numerous underlying structural factors affecting health inequity that might be converging to affect migrant women in particular. The reference Malmusi et al, 2010 utilized by the authors, reflects this complexity very well:

"...cumulative inequality, both in the palce of origin, woth poorer socioeconomic environment in childhood and growth in the palce of destination, with chronic exposure to work hazards, poor living conditions, hardship and discrimination, mechanisms that are well recognized as cuasal factors of racial and ethnic inequalities in health".

Further, the authors suggest that adoption of western lifestyle involves migrant women's smoking rates always going up post migration. While this is often true, it is not always true in all situation, depending on the ethnic group, religious factors, rates in country of origin, rates at destination, age etc.. In all, this is rather a complex picture. I would suggest modifications of these two areas in the manuscript to reflect the wider picture.

**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.