Reviewer’s report

Title: Successful implementation of a wellness and tobacco cessation curriculum in psychosocial rehabilitation clubhouses

Version: 1 Date: 30 June 2011

Reviewer: Abraham Brown

Reviewer’s report:

Major Compulsory Revisions

This is an interesting article that reports on the evaluation of model curriculum to promote wellness and motivation to quit tobacco use in mental health settings. The study adapts the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) curriculum and evaluates its impact on clubhouse members across North Carolina. I am concerned however that although the curriculum was modified, the core content (i.e. tobacco use, cessation, and pharmacotherapy) of this model seemed to be focussed on smokers rather than both smokers and non-smokers. It is not surprising that staff members reported inconsistent delivery of curriculum materials, which might have accounted for the low participating rates. In this regard, it would have been more appropriate to focus the design on smokers only in order to effectively measure the curriculum impact.

To clarify the findings the authors should provide a concise rationale of the study objective, which is based on the review. I would expect a separate analysis for both smokers and non-smokers to be performed and possibly discussed (e.g. indicate response rates of smokers and non-smokers in each clubhouse). Also figures 1 and 2 should be categorised to show, e.g. how many members attended group meetings by smoking status.

Minor Essential Revisions

On page 7, under the results section, the actual percentage of participants who expressed interest in tobacco policies should be stated instead of using the term ‘majority’. The authors should also provide a title for each figure.

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.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.