Author's response to reviews

Title: Effect of an Electronic Nicotine Delivery Device (e-Cigarette) on Smoking Cessation and Reduction: A Prospective Pilot Study

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Response to Series Editor Comments

I would like to thank the Series Editor for considering our manuscript for publication.

Minor Revisions

As per specific request, we have included in the Methods Section (see page 4; “Participants”; last paragraph) the following sentence: “The study protocol was discussed with the Chair of the local institutional ERB (Comitato Etico dell’Azienda Vittorio Emanuele) in February 2010. In consideration of the fact that e-cigarette use is a widespread phenomenon in Italy, that many e-cigarette users are enjoying them as consumer goods, that this type of product is not regulated as a drug or a drug device in Italy (end users can buy e-cig almost anywhere - internet, tobacconists, pharmacies, restaurants, and shops), and that only healthy smokers not willing to quit smoking would participate, it was felt that the study fulfilled the criteria of an observational naturalistic investigation and was exempt from the requirement from ethical approval”.