Reviewer’s report

**Title:** A survey of smoking prevalence and interest in quitting among social and community service organisation clients: a unique opportunity for reaching the highly disadvantaged

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 29 September 2011

**Reviewer:** Harry A Lando

**Reviewer’s report:**

I have only minor comments and suggestions which could be responded to at the discretion of the authors (I assume that they will want to correct the error noted below of referring to 61.4% as “over two thirds”). In my opinion, this manuscript is very well written, addresses the critically important topic of smoking prevalence and interest in quitting in a highly disadvantaged population, and was a pleasure to read.

Intro middle of first paragraph. I believe the authors mean “overstated” rather than “understated.”

Are there barriers to SCSO intervention such as limited staff interest or competing priorities?

 Might note in Table 1 that ATSI refers to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander. Also might insert ATSI in parentheses after Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander under measures #1.

Under smoking behaviors first line indicates “over two thirds (61.4%) reported daily or occasional smoking.” However, this is less than two thirds.

The amount spent on cigarettes weekly is rather striking in this low-income population.

It might be helpful in future research to know more about why respondents were less interested in support from Quitlines. Are cash rewards a viable option?

May be important to better understand barriers to use of evidence based services for those accessing SCSOs.

Although just over half of participants reported that they would like help from community service staff to quit smoking, it is likely that actual utilization of help if offered would be considerably less.

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

**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.