Reviewer's report

Title: Socioeconomic status, urbanization and risk behaviours in Mexican youth: an analysis of 3 cross-sectional surveys

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Reviewer: Eduardo Lazcano-Ponce

Reviewer's report:

It present a manuscript through three nested surveys in the social program "opportunities" that fight poverty in Mexico, it describes the socio-economic status, urbanization and risk behavior among adolescents. The information may be useful to characterize adolescents living in marginalized areas of Mexico, however, the document has several methodological issues that need to clarify and / or modify.

Specific comments:
The introduction is extremely long and the description of methods and results are very sketchy.

Methods:
3 were applied to population-based surveys should clarify, they are comparable in terms of:
1. Were the same questionnaires applied?
2. Was the same type of sample population performed?
3. Is the analysis adjusted for the weights that were used in the sample?
4. Are the age groups similar?
5. The authors did not state what was the primary objective of such surveys.

The main problem identified in the manuscript is the definition of major risk variables:
# it is not defined time exposure to alcohol and tobacco consumption, and creates problems in comparing the data with recent surveys of smoking and youth, the national health survey and the survey of addictions and other population-based Mexico.
# The main problem is that there is no definition of the meaning of the urbanization variable as it is interpretable.

The discussion is poor and out of context with recent references in Mexico in relation to exposure variables studied. I believe that the information is useful but should be vastly improved the manuscript of reference.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable
Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.