Reviewer’s report

Title: Household Secondhand Smoke Exposure of Elementary Schoolchildren in Southern Taiwan and their Confidence in Avoiding Exposure: a Cross-sectional Study

Version: 1 Date: 15 October 2011

Reviewer: Kasonde Bowa

Reviewer’s report:

1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined?
The question is very well defined

2. Are the methods appropriate and well described?
The methods are appropriate and well defined

3. Are the data sound?
The data appears to be sound. I have some concerns about the validity of self administered questionnaires to 3 to 6yr old in this study. Some comments on This should be included (Major)

4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition?
It does

5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data?
Yes

6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated?
Yes. The study subjects 3-6yrs should be included as a limitation (Major)

7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished?
I did not see this in the article. (discretionary)

8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found?
Yes. Though the abstract could be written in a more pointed and catchy manner

9. Is the writing acceptable?
Scientific writing is clear and systematic. The writing is excellent

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'