Reviewer's report

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

Version: 2 Date: 24 November 2011

Reviewer: Todd Heard

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions

The author must respond to these before a decision on publication can be reached. For example, additional necessary experiments or controls, statistical mistakes, errors in interpretation.

Response

• 1st sentence of Abstract needs to be revised.

Background

• Remove second sentence
• Delete sentence 1 second paragraph
• Change sentence 5 to the following:
The aforementioned findings indicate that children are very vulnerable to SHS exposure within the home.
• Expand sentence 1 paragraph 3 to included SHS exposure e.g. “aims to prevent tobacco hazards such as child exposure to SHS”
• Remove etc from sentence 1 paragraph 3.
• Change sentence 3 paragraph 3 to the following:
“These amendments, also further aimed to reduce SHS in children by expanding the prohibition of tobacco use in any indoor area with the presence of pregnant women and/or children under the age of three”
• Delete sentence 4 paragraph 3.
• Change sentence 5 paragraph 3 to the following.
“While this act protects children and other non-smokers from SHS exposure in public spaces, and pregnant women and children under the age of 3 from SHS exposure in-doors it does not protect all children from SHS exposure within the home environment”

Some minor wording revisions required for the remainder of the introduction.
Otherwise there has been a substantial improvement in the background section of the paper with the aims and background for the study being clearly articulated and supported by existing evidence. Well Done!!

Minor wording changes

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

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

'I declare that I have no competing interests’