Reviewer’s report

Title: Heroin use impairs smoking cessation among Australian prisoners

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Reviewer: Inga Dora Sigfusdottir

Reviewer’s report:

Overall the construct of the paper is good. Spelling and grammar needs to be revised. The authors are able to answer the proposed research question using adequate methods.

Abstract
The aim of the paper in the abstract is to investigate how heroin use may affect the success of a smoking cessation intervention among prisoners. But in the background chapter it is much wider, to assess the impact of regular heroin use in the year before entering prison on the social determinants of health, smoking characteristics and success of quitting smoking among prisoners.

What are extremely high rates of smoking? I recommend reporting accurate data instead of using strong descriptive words to make a point.

In the results chapter, what is considered as worse smoking characteristics?

Background:
The chapter is clear and concise, providing a good introduction for the study. One thing I would like the authors to clarify are smoking characteristics. What do they mean by that?

Adding a discussion on smoking cessation programs, what work and what not would be ideal to make a stronger case for your study, especially with regards to the Nor/Placebo discussion, and how using other drugs affect smoking interventions.

Methods:
With regards to the smoking cessation support materials, I would like a further clarification as to what that entails.

Results:
The results chapter is clear but it would benefit from more statistical reporting from table 1 to 3.

“…nor with achieving a 50% reduction in the quantity…” needs to be rephrased for a better understanding.

Discussion:
A good chapter, the authors interpret the data in line with the proposed research question. Limitations and strengths are addressed appropriately. Wording is a
little odd at times and I recommend revising this chapter for grammar and wording.

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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

**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.