Reviewer's report

Title: Improving smoking cessation support for pregnant and postpartum women: an exploratory study

Version: 2 Date: 22 March 2013

Reviewer: Chizimuzo Okoli

Reviewer's report:

This is an intriguing study using a qualitative methodology to understand the context of smoking cessation resources, availability, access, and barriers for pregnant women who smoke in Ontario, Canada. An important strength is the triangulation of information between Key informants, providers, and pregnant women to obtain a broader, more contextualized, view of issues surrounding tobacco use and barriers to cessation among pregnant women in Ontario. I find that the methods are appropriate and that the conclusions drawn from the study stem from the available data.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. Because you discuss rurality as an issue that came up in your study, is it possible to indicate the proportion of pregnant women that were interviewed were rural vs. metropolitan. Especially given that the central east/northwestern regions are an urban/rural mix

2. Did you obtain information on marital status or co-habiting status or the educational status of women in the study? It would be good to have the proportion of women with smoking partners as well as lower education levels, if available

Minor Essential Revisions

N/A

Discretionary Revisions

N/A

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

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