Reviewer's report

Title: NHS patients, staff, and visitor viewpoints of smoking within a hospitals' ground: a qualitative analysis

Version: 2  Date: 25 April 2014

Reviewer: Adelais Markaki

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for the opportunity to review this timely manuscript on a topic of great interest.

The following issues need to be addressed by the authors:

Major Compulsory Revisions:

1) Introduction: since this is a qualitative study, the use of a conceptual framework or theory is expected to guide this type of research (i.e. theory of planned behavior, cognitive-social health information processing framework, etc). If so, please present what is already known and how this study contributes new knowledge from this specific perspective.

2) Methods: clarify if the original study has been published or not.

3) Discussion section: there is no discussion of findings in light of other similar studies. Has this issue been studied in other countries? In view of the specific theory/framework, how is each theme interpreted? What are the overall implications for policy-setting across NHS hospitals? Is there a clear message for administrators and policy-makers?

3) Conclusion section: needs to be more concise. Second paragraph could be moved to Discussion.

Minor Essential Revisions:

1) Thorough editing is needed to correct typos or syntax errors. Some sentences are too long or need re-phrasing. The use of past tense consistently is advised.

2) Ethics: sentence "Study approved...not required" is unclear. Needs to be re-phrased. Clarify how participants were informed about the study.

3) Procedure section: Most of first paragraph is repetition of info. presented before under "Participants".

4) Reference #2 and #3 appear to be identical. Reference #10 needs to be checked.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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'