Reviewer's report

**Title:** Tobacco smoking in Mongolia: findings of a national Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices study

**Version:** 1 **Date:** 15 September 2013

**Reviewer:** Adamson Muula

**Reviewer's report:**

Find below my specific and general comments:

1. There are references within the Abstract section;
2. The results in the Abstract are presented mostly in a qualitative way and yet would be better in some ways if presented quantitatively;
3. Abbreviations have at times been used without full meaning presented;
4. There are one-sentence paragraphs that could be improved
5. The authors may have to consider whether courtesy bias, the term they use, is similar to social desirability bias;
6. There is no clear distinction between tobacco consumption and smoking. Was the manuscript on tobacco use in general, smoking or cigarette smoking?
7. The presentation of percentages in Table 1 is confusing. In some cases, the authors use column percentages while in some other cases they use row percentages;
8. It is advisable to use numbers in words at the beginning of a sentence rather than in Arabic numerals;
9. Multivariable Odds ratio could be replaced by Adjusted Odds ratio
10. Gender is presented as the reason there is lower female smoking. What about gender? Is it that male smoking is more acceptable by society? Is it because women have lower purchasing power? Similarly, in terms of “urbanization”, what are the possible pathways?
11. Women had reported receiving smoking advice from health workers. The reason given is that women contact health facilities frequently than men. May be this is the reason. But could it also be that because women smoking is shunned upon by many, then a woman who smokes is more likely to get advice? Is it that health workers find women non threatening recipients of health information?
12. There is Table 5 in the discussion section. This could be removed.

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

**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 have no competing interests