Reviewer's report

Title: Impact of Additional Counselling Sessions through Phone Calls on Smoking Cessation Outcomes among Smokers in Penang State, Malaysia

Version: 4 Date: 24 April 2014

Reviewer: Susan M Zbikowski

Reviewer's report:

The authors were very responsive to reviews and only some very minor /suggested revisions are provided below:

Abstract: I recommend adding to the abstract that the results were bio-chemically verified since this is a strength of the paper and should be highlighted.

Page 10, statistical analysis section. To be consistent with the other modifications made in the paper please change the last sentence to "The effectiveness of additional counselling in the first month of the quit attempt compared with usual care...."

Page 12, Smoking cessation interventions.. To be consistent with the other modifications made in the paper please change the third sentence. "At the three months follow-up visit after the quitting date, participants who received additional counselling in the first month had significantly higher rate of success..."

Page 13. End of 2nd full paragraph. Please change to read "The majority of the study participants did not try to quit smoking in the past (87.9%)."

Page 16/17 Conclusion. Last sentence. Change to "Therefore, this study provides evidence that additional counselling during the first few weeks after the quit date is a promising treatment strategy that should be evaluated further."

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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 I have no competing interests.