Reviewer’s report

Title: An examination of exposure and avoidance behavior related to second-hand cigarette smoke among adolescent girls in Canada

Version: 2 Date: 27 March 2014

Reviewer: Huda Gharaibeh

Reviewer’s report:

Dear Authors

This is an important study that highlights the risk factors of SHS especially among adolescent girls and recommends actions to be taken to avoid exposure to SHS.

The research questions were not clearly stated.

The measurements that were used in the study should be explored more in regards to number of items, time to be completed or justify the low response rate. In regards to stage of change related avoidance of SHS, is there specific behaviours in each stage that indicate the avoidance stage. The validity and reliability of the measures need to be addressed.

In the result section authors should be careful when reporting some results and showed the majority with about nearly half of the participants as in line 160. Author indicated the majority of girls were 14 years old with (57%).

In the discussion the authors need to discuss the SHS avoidance behaviours in each stage of change.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'