Reviewer’s report

Title: Clinical trials in a remote Aboriginal setting: lessons from the BOABS smoking cessation study

Version: 1 Date: 6 May 2014

Reviewer: Israel Agaku

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- Major Compulsory Revisions

1. Please, in the supplemental boxes provided, kindly include quotation marks in the original comments made by study participants because of the qualitative nature of the data.

Minor Essential Revisions

2. In the Abstract, define the acronym “BOABS” at first usage.

3. In the abstract, kindly provide more information about the BOABS study to help the reader better understand the data. Currently, the study is just mentioned in passing.

Discretionary Revisions

4. Consider including a map to provide the reader with a better spatial orientation of the two study sites. That way, the reader has a better mental grasp of the challenges and issues raised in the study.

Overall, this is a great study with rich information that could be relevant in alerting researchers conducting similar studies to potential problems that could arise. I strongly recommend publication.

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:

None to declare