Reviewer's report

Title: Do people with risky behaviours participate in biomedical cohort studies?

Version: 2 Date: 22 November 2005

Reviewer: Richard Holubkov

Reviewer's report:

I found in general the response to be adequate to my statistical as well as overall concerns. The analyses in the Tables have been clarified (as well as corrected!) and I now understand the approach that was used to generate the "cell-specific" p-values. I do believe that the various analyses are now easier for general readers as well as biostatisticians to interpret, as presented and referenced in the revision. Moreover, reasons for discrepancies in Table 4 numbers have been clarified in the text.

With respect to my nonresponse issues, I believe these have been handled adequately. The description of the weighting process is clearer to me now after reading the revision, and the authors have made some modifications in the conclusions regarding nonresponse. Their responses in the letter to me and Reviewer 1 defend their conclusions, but not arrogantly so. Overall, their responses to the reviews are intelligent and appropriate, and as adequate as is possible given their source data.