Reviewer’s report

Title: Relation between awareness of circulatory disorders and smoking in a general population health examination

Version: 2 Date: 15 January 2006

Reviewer: martin gulliford

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Minor Essential Revisions

1. In the abstract, the simple comparison of proportions of current smokers is meaningless in the absence of information about the distribution of age and other confounders. Therefore, state that the odds ratios are ‘adjusted’ and list, in the methods section of the abstract, the variables included in the logistic model as confounders.

2. In Table 1, give the exact P values to three decimal figures. In my view the chi-square statistics could be omitted, as could Cohen’s w, as the adjusted odds ratios in Table 2 are used as the main measures of effect or association.

3. In Table 2, in the legend the word ‘relation’ should be replaced by ‘association’. The odds ratios and confidence limits should all be given to two decimal places, P values for overall association of variable with current smoking should be given.

4. The paper raises a question concerning the differences between those who continue smoking and those who do not. The distributions for the confounders which are not shown – education, BMI, exercise – are therefore of interest and should be documented.

5. The English would benefit from streamlining in some places. Eg p8 ‘circular illnesses’.

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests