Author's response to reviews

Title: Prevalence and determinants of adolescent tobacco smoking in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Authors:

Emmanuel Rudatsikira (erudatsikira@llu.edu)
Abdurahman Abdo (abdo-abdurahmanabdo@yahoo.com)
Adamson S Muula (muula@email.unc.edu)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor

RE: MS:  1862692501239900
Prevalence and determinants of adolescent tobacco smoking in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Emmanuel Rudatsikira, Abdurahman Abdo and Adamson S. Muula

We are please to resubmit the above-titled manuscript for further consideration by the BMC Public Health Journal.

We have revised the manuscript and are pleased to resubmit it. Please find below the responses to the reviewers’ and editors’ comments

1. The reviewers had suggested that we present a much comprehensive introduction section so as to put study in context.
Response: We have done that by including further background to the study,

2. The reviewers had suggested that we consider incorporating information from two (2) systematic reviewers on tobacco smoking in Africa.
Response: We have done that too (please see references by Townsend et al)

3. There was suggestion that we revise the English.
Response: We have done that also. Much help has come from Emmanuel Rudatsikira who has also re-done the analysis of the data.

4. There was query whether we had weighted the analysis based on the study design.
Response: We have indicated that the results are weighted estimates.

5. The reviewers had indicated that we did not present the Discussion in such a way as to refer back to the results.
Response: the current manuscript discussion section has incorporated the briefs of the results in interpreting the findings.
6. The reviewers had indicated that the results needed to be put in the context in Africa and outside of Africa.
Response: we have compared our estimated with previous estimates from Uganda and Greece among school adolescents also studies using the same methodology.

7. There was suggestion that we also run multivariate analysis.
Response: this has been done and so we present both bivariate and multivariate analyses.

8. There was concern by a reviewer that the definition that we had used (current smoking) was not referenced and so readers not within the tobacco research field may not benefit as much.
Response: We have provided reference but also indicated that this is standard definition within GYTS (Global Youth Tobacco Surveys).

The following are formatting responses;
We have followed all formatting requirements.
Specifically however we have:
  1. indicated the corresponding author of title page
  2. we have removed period (.) at the end of author’s affiliation.
  3. we have indicated that we have no competing interests
  4. have formatted the references.

Note: Dr Emmanuel Rudatsikira MD, MPH was not originally on the author’s list. Following the request for revision, we invited him to work with us in analysis, interpretation and manuscript revision. Our assessment is that he has contributed significantly to be co-author and bear responsibility as such. He has run the analysis again and especially the multivariate analysis.

Adamson S. Muula
Corresponding author
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