Reviewer's report

Title: Use of smokeless tobacco among groups of Pakistani medical students - A cross sectional study.

Version: 2 Date: 5 March 2007

Reviewer: Tibor Baska

Reviewer's report:

General

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
From the text, the sampling method is not clear (what does it mean "convenient sampling"?). Was used the whole target population (census) or how the sample was created? How was the total number of all eligible students? What was the actual response rate?

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)
The text contains no information on age of students.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
Some definitions of smokeless tobacco can be misleading: Indicating as heavy smokers those having used smokeless tobacco on more than 100 occasions in their lifetime seems too much "strong". Has such definition ever been used somewhere? If so, a bibliographic reference would be helpful.

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory 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, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I have no competing interests.