Reviewer's report

Title: Development of Chinese Version of the Global Youth Tobacco Survey Instrument

Version: 1 Date: 6 November 2007

Reviewer: Andrea melani

Reviewer's report:

General
Tobacco smoking is becoming widespread among youths even in developing countries. This manuscript validates the Chinese version of the GYTS questionnaire. The availability of validated instruments is useful for monitoring and applications of tobacco control policies.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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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)

I have no substantial criticism. Some minor variations could possibly improve the quality of the article, which should include an attachment with the Chinese version of the GYTS questionnaire

The Authors should specifies the approval of local ethics committee

Was the focus group conducted by an operator with proven experience? More importantly, the Authors report that the focus group included eight students. They had to specify the modalities of enrollment and other variables such as mean age (and range), their gender and smoking status. Similarly the same variables had to be defined for both the 382 students who compiled the GYTS questionnaire and the 89 ones who answered for test-retest reliability. What was the response rate of these samples of subjects? I suppose that there were some missing data; they should be specified.

Text should be reviewed for English language (including references and their international abbreviations). Mainly, some phrases could be usefully shortened improving their comprehensiveness.

1) Page 4, line 7. “In order to address this deficiency, the Taiwan Bureau of Health…..”

2) Page 12, last line. “First, there is no bioassay measurement available to directly validate self report of smoking…..”

3) Page 13, last line of first paragraph “………. from city and rural area was not
found in another pilot study (data not shown).”

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

**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, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests**:

I have no competing interests about the current manuscript