Reviewer's report

Title: Patterns of motivations and ways of quitting smoking among Polish smokers: A questionnaire study

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Reviewer: Silvano Gallus

Reviewer's report:

This manuscript shows the motivation to quit smoking of 618 ever smokers in Poland. The paper is well-written, but the study has a limited sample size and subjects were not representative of the Polish population (they were patients enrolled in several health care units).

The paper should be shortened (in particular the Methods and the Results section. For example, the definition of blue- and white-collars should be deleted, and the “Additional file” could be omitted) and authors should address the following points:

Some of the findings (including in particular the “reasons for quitting”) could be influenced by the department where subjects were enrolled. I expect for example that patients from the “Department of Pneumonology” more frequently stopped smoking for personal health problems than patients enrolled in other departments. Authors should show in Tables and discuss the main findings in strata of department of enrolment.

In the Abstract and in the Results section it appears that 68% of current smokers used NRT, while “only” 24% of current smokers used NRT (Table 2). Authors should clarify what “68%” represents.

To reduce the Results section, I suggest to add a column in Table 2 showing the quitting characteristics and the pattern of motivation for the total of subjects (current + former smokers).

In Table 3 the columns showing the distribution for Total number of smokers should be deleted, since these data are already reported in Table 1, and moreover because percentages are column percentages, whereas the other percentages showed in the table represent row percentages.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests