Reviewer's report

Title: Socio-demographic factors and processes associated with stages of change for smoking cessation in pregnant versus non-pregnant women.

Version: 1 Date: 5 July 2010

Reviewer: David Tappin

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Major compulsory revisions:
I think that the data is helpful, but needs to come from a different angle. That is: Has 'stage of change' measurement any relevance to smoking cessation services during and outwith pregnancy? I think stage of change is important, but I am not sure it can be measured by a doctor using a psychologist's questionnaire. The dissonance between stage of change measurement and smoking cessation during pregnancy compared with smoking cessation in other situations may be due to inability to accurately measure stage of change by a health care worker in their normal care situation with a pregnant patient. The introduction must focus on the review of smoking cessation interventions during pregnancy and the lack of efficacy of stage of change interventions. It must contrast this with any evidence about stage of change interventions outside pregnancy. The question then is: Is stage of change intervention no good in pregnancy or are we not able to measure stage of change accurately during pregnancy?

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

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