Reviewer’s report

Title: Provision of relapse prevention interventions in UK NHS Stop Smoking Services

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Reviewer: Amanda Amos

Reviewer’s report:

This paper reports the findings of a survey on the provision of relapse prevention interventions by UK NHS smoking cessation services. Given the high relapse rate among service users this issue is of interest to not only service providers but policy makers and others in the tobacco control community. As far as I am aware this is the first survey to look at this issue. The findings are clearly presented and have implications for smoking cessation practice and research. While the response rate (52%) was a bit disappointing, I think that it is sufficiently high for the results to have utility, and the limitations are discussed by the authors.

My comments are minor and mainly about phrasing.

Abstract: it is a bit confusing that the first time NHS SSS is used it refers to smoking cessation services rather than stop smoking services.

Background: It was a bit unclear as to what is meant by relapse prevention initiatives. I think it would be helpful if the definition in the Methods was also included here.

p4- remove ? in first line para 2

Methods: do you mean hypothesis generating or testing?

Results p7- end of second para- don't understand 'to meet government targets () services'

p8- similarly 'telephone support of services'

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 declare that I have no competing interests