Reviewer's report

Title: Methylphenidate for treating tobacco dependence in non-attention deficit hyperactivity disorder smokers: A pilot randomized placebo-controlled trial

Version: 1 Date: 6 November 2010

Reviewer number: 1

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This is a well written and straightforward report of a well-designed placebo controlled RCT of long acting oral methylphenidate for smoking cessation in 80 adult smokers without known psychiatric comorbidity. It is resoundingly and convincingly negative. Higher rates of adverse events in the methylphenidate group suggest that they were in fact taking their study medication. This also supports the speculation in the conclusion that, though a relatively low dose of 54 mg was tested in this study, higher doses are likely to be poorly tolerated and thus not clinically useful.

Year of publication is not included for all references (Refs 14 and 15).

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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