Reviewer's report

Title: Cigarette Smoking, Nicotine Dependence and Anxiety Disorders: A systematic review of population based, epidemiological studies

Version: 4 Date: 7 August 2012

Reviewer: Terry Lewin

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the revised version of this manuscript. The authors are to be congratulated on their attention to detail. From my perspective, they have attended appropriately to the issues raised by the Reviewers.

Discretionary Revisions:

While I feel that Figure 2 is a useful addition, the authors may wish to consider expanding on the information provided. Perhaps, instead of simply displaying crosses in each of the relevant cells, they may choose to use a simple coding frame, such as + for predominantly positive associations, - for predominantly negative associations, 0 for non-significant associations, x for ambiguous associations, etc; or, possibly, a colour based system (shading the entire cell), such as green for positive associations, red for negative associations, grey for non-significant associations, yellow for ambiguous associations, etc. This is just a suggestion. It may even be worth combining symbols and cell shading, so that any non-colour printing of the final article is still interpretable.

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.