Reviewer's report

Title: Lessons learned from recruiting socioeconomically disadvantaged smokers into a pilot randomised controlled trial to explore the role of Exercise Assisted Reduction then Stop (EARS) smoking.

Version: 1 Date: 15 July 2014

Reviewer: David Tappin

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions

I think the only major revision would be to describe in detail how the number of GP participants and SSS participants that were phoned was decided. I think that the whole sample were contacted by letter and then phoning was attempted with non-responders until the planned sample size was achieved. If I am right a found this out mainly by going to the HTA published protocol. This however should be clarified in the text of this paper for it is really not clear at all.

Minor Essential Revisions

Page 2 line 3 'were' instead of 'was'
Page 18 line 6 typo

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

no competing interests