Reviewer’s report

Title: Successfull smoking cessation with e-cigarettes in smokers with a documented history fo recurring relapses: case report

Version: 3 Date: 19 June 2011

Reviewer: Wael K Al-Delaimy

Which of the following following best describes what type of case report this is?: Other

If other, please specify:

A potential new method for management of a common but difficult behavior

Has the case been reported coherently?: Yes

Is the case report authentic?: Yes

Is the case report ethical?: Yes

Is there any missing information that you think must be added before publication?: Yes

Is this case worth reporting?: Yes

Is the case report persuasive?: Yes

Does the case report have explanatory value?: Yes

Does the case report have diagnostic value?: No

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: Yes

Is the anonymity of the patient protected?: Yes

Comments to authors:

This is an interesting finding that shows E-cigarettes can assist resistant smokers who failed quitting of smoking using traditional methods of cessation.

A few limitations must be highlighted in the text. There is a likely explanation that those who used E-cigarettes are more likely to have quit anyway without it. The more quitting attempts a smoker makes the more likely the smoker will eventually succeed in quitting. In such case reports, a question should have been asked of the cases if they took up E-cigarettes with the intention to quit or not. Do the
cases believe they would not have quit if it weren't for the E-cigarettes?

Another important aspect that needs to be highlighted by the authors are the risk of E-cigarettes. New studies show that there are other harmful substances in E-cigarettes such the anti-freeze diethylene glycol and tobacco-specific nitrosamines. in the US, the FDA has publicly requested from Americans not to smoke the E-cigarette pending further evidence about its safety. The authors should weigh in on the benefits and harms of using E-cigarettes and the risk that nonsmokers might end up using it and get addicted to nicotine and being to smoke tobacco cigarettes.

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests