Reviewer's report

Title: Parental risk perceptions of child exposure to tobacco smoke

Version: 2 Date: 2 December 2014

Reviewer: Alessandro Coppo

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General comments
The paper presents a model to measure parental perception of child exposure to tobacco smoke. In literature is well documented how smoking parents use to expose their children to tobacco smoke. In the study it is of interest how the approach of Health Belief Model was used to identify some different aspects of risk perceptions. It is also interesting the review on the questions used by other authors to explore risk perception dimension among smokers. On the other hand the attempt to explore the relationship between the model and parental smoking, as well as family smoking in the home, is based on a study whose design have methodological weakness, in particular a small sample and a recruitment strategy that could incur in selection bias. I think these aspects should be emphasized in strength and limitations section. My comments refers only to terminology clarification.

Minor Essential Revisions

Methods
1) It is necessary to explain why subjects were divided in the categories “regular” and “non regular” smokers. It is a distinction not so used in literature and one may think that never smokers are not included in the second category.
2) It should be also explained why occasional smokers, ex-smokers and never smokers could share the same risk perception system.
3) The question which refers to perceived severity is quite different from the others as it introduces a personal question “In your opinion, how much will tobacco smoke in the child’s environment affect YOUR child’s health?”. Could you explain if this has implications for the study?

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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