Reviewer’s report

Title: Daily stress as link between disadvantage and smoking: An Ecological Momentary Assessment Study

Version: 0 Date: 29 Jul 2019

Reviewer: Aaron Drovandi

Reviewer's report:

Thank-you for the opportunity to review this manuscript, which investigates how stress relates socioeconomic disadvantage and smoking, which is essential to understand from a public health perspective. I found this manuscript to be well structured and easy to follow, with little confusion or ambiguity within the text.

Title: Describes the study well - no changes needed.

Abstract:
Background: I found the background well-structured and easy to follow, with a comprehensive list of supporting literature, describing how the link between socioeconomic status and smoking is not clear, though increased stress and decreases access to resources as a result of SES is probable. The goals and hypotheses of the research were also well described.

Methods: The methods were mostly well described, and includes enough information that would allow the study to be repeated by others. Can the authors please:
- Clarify if mental health status (e.g. depression, schizophrenia) was an exclusion criteria, as there are links between these mental health issues and smoking.
- Provide a supporting reference (if possible) for the value of $15 000 USD as the point for dichotomizing low and high income. I am unfamiliar with the general cost of living and wages, etc. within the US and this value seems quite low?

Results: The results were also well described and easy to visualise through the use of succinct tables. I have no suggestions regarding improvement of the results.
Discussion: The discussion was also structured well, with the most important results being discussed first using appropriate supporting references where applicable. I found the African-American data to be quite interesting and well discussed. In regards to the limitations of the study, could the following please be addressed:
- Do the authors believe that using data that is roughly 10 years old constitutes a limitation; for example in that time issues such as the cost of cigarettes, changes in the cost of daily living, and level of public health interventions related to smoking would be significantly different between now and then, possibly reducing the applicability of the data.
- Also regarding limitations - did the authors consider that CPD is not the only cigarette-related factor when it comes to relieving stress? I am referring to puffing topography and the extraction of nicotine per cigarette that could also differ throughout the day based on how much time participants would have
to smoke during their day - and could be a suggestion for further research (though it would be difficult to implement)

Conclusion: No changes needed.

References: The range of references used was appropriate for the study.

Other: None - the structure and level of English for the manuscript was good.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I recommend additional statistical review

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable
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