Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Youth Working in Tobacco Farming: Effects on Smoking Behavior and Association with Health Status

**Version:** 0  **Date:** 04 Oct 2019

**Reviewer:** Beladenta Amalia

**Reviewer's report:**

This is a very well conducted study, and it addresses issue that is still overlooked in tobacco control.

My one major comment is concerning the 2nd regression analysis (Table 3) where it is unclear whether the model included smoking status in T1 as the confounding factor. While it is indicated in the methods section (Page 9, line 32-34), it is not mentioned in the footnote of Table 3, making the message inconsistent.

Other comments:

- **Methods:**
  (Page 6) Any explanation why the sample was only among 8th grade students while the secondary schools range from 8th to 12th grade? and aged 13-17 years seems too broad for one specific grade.

  (Page 8, paragraph 2) On definition of tobacco farming. Does it mean that they may have stopped working by the time of the survey? I suppose different employment status in tobacco farming (never, past, current) may indicate different exposure and, thus, different outcome. Although authors have mentioned that they cannot get the exact date of the work initiation, do they know whether they were still working when the survey was conducted? if they fail to obtain such information, authors might want to explain how it is likely affect the results.

- **Results:**

  (Page 11, Line 1-2) It's true that the overall prevalence of smoking increased at T2 and those working in tobacco farming had a greater rate. But if we compare their smoking behaviour in T1 vs. T2 among youth having history in tobacco farming, it shows a decrease (both in current & established smoker) while the youth who never worked in tobacco farming shows an increase. It appears counterintuitive. again, it is better to point this out in the text.

  (Page 11, Line 22-27) I suppose authors miss this finding in Table 3.

- **Discussion:**

  Is there any other/ethnographic studies looking at the discrepancy found between girls and boys working in tobacco farming? why it happened?
Authors might want to add argument or reference to support the claim, that the current practice is unchanged.

**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.

No

**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 am able to assess the statistics

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