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| Book Name: | **An epidemiological cross sectional study of use of smokeless tobacco among adolescents of urban slum of a metropolitan city** |
| Manuscript Number: | **Ms\_BPR\_6088** |
| Title of the Manuscript: | **An epidemiological cross sectional study of use of smokeless tobacco among adolescents of urban slum of a metropolitan city** |
| Type of the Article | **Complete Book** |

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| PART 1: Comments | | |
|  | Reviewer’s comment **Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated or assisted review comments are strictly prohibited during peer review.** | Author’s Feedback *(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)* |
| **Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.** | **This paper examines the determinants and prevalence of smokeless tobacco use among adolescents in urban slums, a hitherto neglected group in health studies. Its public health significance is significant owing to the increasing trend of adolescent initiation of tobacco consumption. The research gives new information on socio-demographic variables, family context, peer network, and health effects, making it informative for tobacco control policy, intervention planning, and advocacy for adolescent health in developing nations such as India.** |  |
| **Is the title of the article suitable?**  **(If not please suggest an alternative title)** | **The present title is descriptive but wordy. Suggested Alternative:  Prevalence and Pattern of Smokeless Tobacco Use in Urban Slum Adolescents: A Cross-sectional Study  This altered title retains clarity and conciseness.** |  |
| Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here. | **Problem: The manuscript lacks a conventional abstract in the submitted version.**  **Recommendation:**  **Write a formal abstract (Background, Objectives, Methods, Results, Conclusion).**  **Identify main findings (e.g., 13.9% prevalence, initiation age, main source of products, symptoms noted).**  **Explicitly state implications for public health policy and teen addiction prevention.** |  |
| **Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.** | **Comment:**  **Study is scientifically sound with a very clear cross-sectional design and a high sample size (n = 1800).**  **Statistical tools used are appropriate, and applied correctly. Chi-square, Fisher's exact, and PSPP were used.**  **The results are well-tabulated and presented in a logical sequence.**  **There is repetition and a lot of background details in the literature review that could be reduced.**  **Suggested Changes:**  **Add odds ratios or relative risks for key associations. For example, peer tobacco use against personal use.**  **Offer clarity in definitions: differentiate more sharply between knowledge, attitude, and practices.**  **The "Results" section would relocate some observations (e.g., tobacco storage, usage of pocket money) to a supporting annex for clearer focus.** |  |
| **Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.**  **-** | **Comment:**  **The manuscript has a comprehensive and detailed literature review.**  **A few references (e.g., WHO 2003, GATS 2010) are no longer current.**  **Recommendation:**  **Include newer references (after 2018) on smokeless tobacco in India or other similar LMICs.**  **Add latest GATS or NFHS data if they exist.**  **Utilize referencing tools or citation managers to have a consistent style.** |  |
| Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? | Comment:  The language is mostly clear but requires major grammatical corrections:  Eliminate sentence redundancy.  Substitute informal or redundant phrases (e.g., "as good as paan without the beetle leaf").  Maintain tense coherence and academic tone throughout.  The introduction employs religious quotes which, while contextual, may not be suitable for scientific writing unless skillfully presented as part of cultural perceptions. |  |
| Optional/General comments |  |  |

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| **PART 2:** | | |
|  | Reviewer’s comment | Author’s comment *(if agreed with the reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)* |
| **Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?** | *(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in detail)* |  |

**Reviewer details:**

**Susmita Chakrabarty, India**