

Review of: "Population estimates of biomarkers of exposure to carbon monoxide, nicotine, and NNK in smokers and non-smokers"

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Potential competing interests: The author(s) declared that no potential competing interests exist.

Ayala-Fierro et. al developed methods to estimate the biomarkers of exposure (BOEs) for several chemical compounds related to smoke. The data mining part is interesting and the authors have provided sufficient references to each datasets. However, a complete data table including the 33,882 smokers and 3,238 non-smoker is missing. The weighted average is simply based on data size. This is probably wrong if other features (gender, age) are not evenly distributed across different studies. Lastly, I'm also wondering if there are any batch effects. For example, is the distribution of COHb% the same in each dataset?

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