

Review of: "Correlates of Nicotine Dependence Among Current Cigarette Smokers in Nigeria"

Mariliis Põld¹

¹ University of Tartu

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the manuscript titled 'Correlates of Nicotine Dependence Among Current Cigarette Smokers in Nigeria'. The manuscript sheds light on a very important issue - tobacco use prevalence in low-and-middle-income countries.

My comments are as follows:

- Please, once more review the spelling and grammar throughout the paper as some errors appear in the text.
- I'm wondering if the concept of 'p50 auditory gating' might need a bit more explaining, or if possible, a simpler wording?
- In the methods section, it says that 'Participants were enrolled from the Smoking Cessation Clinic of the Preventive Dentistry clinic' and at the same time non-cigarette smokers were excluded. Were there non-smokers in the cessation clinic? Or was it meant that people who used other tobacco products besides cigarettes were excluded? If so, please specify this in the manuscript.
- I was also wondering about the relatively young population (mean age 33.8 years) - is this to be expected in this type of clinic? Similarly, the high prevalence of internalizing/externalizing problems among the respondents. Please consider discussing the representativeness of the survey sample in the discussion section.
- Do you think that people in the cessation clinic are more or less nicotine dependent than smokers overall in the country? I suggest that this could be shortly discussed in the Discussion section.
- How many people altogether were approached to be included in the survey? Please describe the enrolling procedure in more detail.
- Please give some examples of internalizing and externalizing problems in the Introduction or Methods section.
- Please consider joining tables 1 and 2 so the results of the bivariate and full model are in the same table. This would save space and make it easier to compare results before and after adjusting.
- In the Discussion section, the references after the sentence 'This aligns with previous research in LMICs and high-income countries (HICs) that have indicated that high dependence is associated with an older age (36-45 years), manual occupations, and lower education.' can be combined by showing ranges of numbers. For example, [3, 6–56]. If it is needed to keep the numbers separate because of hyperlinks, please consider removing some of the references as a much smaller amount of evidence is also sufficient to back up the information. Please also note that currently, [52] appears twice in a row.

