

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.

As smoking is a major risk factor for all four diseases with the highest mortality rate, assessment of the biomarkers of exposure to tobacco products is extremely important.

The study is comprehensive and has included a lot of high-quality studies which fulfill certain criteria, so the results of this article are of significance. The advantage is that results were analyzed from studies from all over the world, in a big number of subjects, more than 35.000. In the discussion, the authors are critical, enlightening the problem from different angles, and listed disadvantages.

Investigators clearly show that chosen biomarkers have significantly different values in the group of cigarette smokers, versus non-smokers. As it is really not practical to measure all available biomarkers in every evaluation, results prove that the listed biomarkers in this study are valuable for future research, as well as for clinical practice.

Additional comment:

I do not feel competent enough for the evaluation of the statistical analysis.

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