

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

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This study is generally well-written and well-executed. However, I have a few suggestions for improvement:

Methods:

- Given the variation in terminologies across studies on tobacco consumption, please provide a clear definition of “combustible cigarettes” and specify the types of products included. For example, clarify whether this term refers exclusively to traditional cigarettes or also encompasses e-cigarettes and other forms of tobacco products.
- Regarding covariates, do you have sufficient data to include job status? This could be a significant covariate based on prior research, and you mentioned its importance in your discussion section, noting that individuals with manual jobs tend to have a higher likelihood of nicotine dependence.
- Please include confidence intervals for all reported prevalence estimates (percentages).

Results:

- It is unnecessary to include both the p-value and confidence interval for the reported odds ratios; the confidence interval alone is sufficient.

Discussion:

- The discussion of interventions, such as plain packaging and other strategies to encourage smoking cessation, could be expanded. This is essential for highlighting how the study’s findings could impact public health policymaking, particularly for enhancing smoking cessation efforts. Additionally, these findings may be applicable not only in Nigeria but also in other countries with similar geographic or economic contexts.
- The discussion should more thoroughly address the study’s limitations, especially the constraints of the cross-sectional design, which limit the ability to draw causal inferences.
- The implications of the findings should be further developed, particularly in relation to public health strategies in Nigeria. How can these results inform tobacco control policies or smoking cessation programs?

Conclusion:

- The conclusion is somewhat repetitive and does not clearly summarize the study’s main findings. It should be rephrased to concisely restate the key results and their implications.

In summary, addressing these minor points, particularly clarifying the definition of “combustible cigarettes,” will enhance the manuscript's clarity and overall quality.