

# 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: I am a current employee of RAI Services Company.

## Overall:

The paper is very well written, well-presented, and easy to follow. Nice job by the authors. My comments are more observational versus action items.

## Abstract

Why wasn't the NEQ normalized to creatinine?

## Summary of biomarker levels across groups

Rhetorical but, why is the difference in NEQ for smokers vs nonsmokers (13.75) so much smaller than the difference b/w Smokers vs Former Smokers (113.2)? that is surprising

## Discussion

Was NEQ analyzed as Nic+5, Nic+9, a mix of both, or something else? article is vague on this point but I doubt that it matters much.