Review of: "The potential of GLP-1 RAs in treating Tobacco use dependence and Obesity"

Chi-Ming Wong[1]

1 Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I have several major concerns regarding this review paper.

Firstly, the methodology description is too brief. It is unclear how many papers were screened out via the keywords by Pubmed. Furthermore, it is unusual to use a lengthy phrase such as "DM in combination with tobacco use dependence" as a keyword.

Secondly, it appears that at least four human studies were cited and discussed, yet the authors wrote, "Two studies evaluated the physiological responses of GLP-1 RAs in patients who smoke." This statement is unclear and requires further explanation.

Thirdly, several sentences lack proper citation support. For instance, the fourth paragraph in the discussion, the statement "In smokers with or without DM, weight gain can be a major adverse effect of smoking cessation, resulting in worsening health conditions" needs a reference. Additionally, the claim that "there is a growing body of evidence that nicotine addiction and obesity share common neurobiological pathways" and "during smoking abstinence, patients may turn to palatable foods as a substitute, leading to weight gain" both require proper citation support.

Fourthly, the citation of reference 8 is not appropriate. Firstly, it is a conference paper without showing the data. Secondly, the authors of this conference paper recently published a paper on Trials (doi: 10.1186/s13063-023-07164-9), where they stated that "The results of this study shall be published in a peer-reviewed journal and presented at scientific conferences." Therefore, no definitive conclusions should be drawn or officially announced for this study. This raises questions about the statement, "Despite this, GLP-1 RAs such as dulaglutide may still be a promising treatment for smoking cessation as it may avoid PCWG," and whose conclusion it is.

In summary, I recommend that the authors address these concerns and provide appropriate citation support to strengthen the paper's credibility.