

Response to Reviewer 2

I would like to thank Reviewer 2 for very detailed and useful comments which will definitely improve our manuscript.

Comment 1. The study aim should be more precise "The aim of this study was...."

Response 1. The *"Aim of the study"* has been changed completely.

Comment 2. Study sample - please provide more precise data on population (faculties at the university and its share in the total sample of recruited subjects)

Response 2. To reply on this comment and to provide readers with more precise data we made some changes in two sections. In the subsection "Sample size" of the section "Materials and methods" we emphasized that *"students from 16 faculties of the University of Banja Luka were participants in our study"*.

In section "Results" we have added a new sentence that *"Majority of study participants were medical students (41.4%) and the rest were students from other faculties (58.6%)."*

Comment 3. Please attach an English version of the questionnaire as supplementary material or precisely describe questions that were used to assess the smoking status.

Response 3. This has been already presented in Table 2. and explained by asterisks (**) below the table:

* *Students who smoked at least one day in 30 days prior to the survey.*

** *Students who smoke every day and desired to smoke always or sometimes upon waking up, and where smoking time after waking up was within one day.*

If necessary the English version of the Questionnaire could be provided as Supplementary material.

Comment 4. The results section is too extensive - please avoid describing all the results in the text. Please provide the most important results in the text, and the rest of them are present in Tables.

Response 4. We have made some changes in the section "Results" to avoid data duplication.

Comment 5. In Table 5 please provide the number of subjects (n=.....)

Response 5. The number of subjects (N) has been added.

Comments 6. Tables 6 and 7 are unclear and should be more precise (Especially confidence intervals)

Response 6. The contents of Table 6 and Table 7 have been rearranged and comprised into one table which is now Table 6.

Comment 7. Please provide practical implications of this study

Response 7. In the last paragraph of the section “Discussion” we have proposed some practical implications and recommendations for further actions.

Comment 8. Please provide a conclusion based on obtained findings and please avoid overwhelming conclusions

Response 8. The section “Conclusion” has been completely revised and rearranged according to the reviewer’s comment.