

Appendix 1. Power calculations

We were informed by RegionH that there were approximately 10.000 employees with low SES working in the hospitals. We assumed that 24% of these were daily smokers and 25% would accept participation. In the intervention hospitals we assumed that 30% of those who joined the SCG would quit; 5% of those who did not join the intervention would quit (spillover effect), 11% in total. In the control hospitals we assumed that the spontaneous quit-rate would be 3%. With alfa error level =5% and power = 80% we had to include min. 184 smokers in each group. This needed to be inflated to accommodate for the clustering effect. Generally, the size of ICC declines with the size of the cluster; as our clusters were very large (hospitals) we estimated the ICC to be low; 0.005. Sample size was calculated as min. 254 smokers in each group.