Smokers needed to give the following responses to 4 pre-consultation questionnaire items to be categorised as "hardcore smokers":

 Smoke "every day" or "most days" (i.e. regular smokers) when asked about amount smoked

- No attempts to quit in the past year lasting longer than 24 hours (i.e. no recent past quit attempts)
- Answered "probably not" or "definitely not" when asked if they intended to quit smoking in the next four weeks (i.e. no intention to quit)
- Answered "I very much want to keep on smoking", "I would like to keep on smoking" or "I don't really want to stop smoking" when asked if they wanted to stop smoking (i.e. no desire to quit).