Reviewer's report

Title: Far from easy and accurate - metabolic syndrome detection by general practitioners

Version: 1 Date: 31 August 2009

Reviewer: Peter CY Tong

Reviewer's report:

This study examined the accuracy of detecting metabolic syndrome by primary care physicians in Finland. The results suggested that primary care physicians failed to identify subjects with metabolic syndrome with a sensitivity of 0.31 and a specificity of 0.73.

Comments:

1. The study provided useful information on how metabolic syndrome is being perceived in primary care. Importantly, both doctors and patients are not aware of the constellation of these cardiovascular risk factors.

2. Given that only 1160 subjects had measurements and records available for the diagnosis of metabolic syndrome, so this should be the number of subjects included in the final analysis. The percentages in the text and in Table 3 should be revised.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests