Reviewer’s report

Title: A cross-sectional study assessing the self-reported weight loss strategies used by adult Australian general practice patients.

Version: 2 Date: 16 April 2012

Reviewer: yacov fogelman

Reviewer’s report:

This study aimed to describe within the normal weight, overweight and obese category; the proportion attempting to lose weight in the previous 12 months, the types of strategies and diets used as well as the proportion that seek GP advice prior to trying to lose weight.

The study in my view did not add new data to already known information from other studies. There is a selection bias of the participants who do not know fluent English, and the study setting that participants are waiting for entering to GPs room is problematic. Also a large proportion of obese patients were consulted by their GP. The value and content of this consultation was not evaluated.

The authors claims that weight lose medications are effective. Are they in the long run? More details about obesity specialists are lacking including what strategies they use.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.