Reviewer's report

Title: 'Fat mass and obesity associated' gene (FTO): no significant association of variant rs9939609 with weight loss in a lifestyle intervention and lipid metabolism markers in German obese children and adolescents

Version: 2 Date: 12 August 2008

Reviewer: Liselotte Petersen

Reviewer's report:

Dear Timo D. Müller et al,

The paper 'Fat mass and obesity associated gene (FTO): no significant association of variant rs9939609 with weight loss in a lifestyle intervention and lipid metabolism markers in German obese children and adolescents' presents interesting data on a weight loss intervention study and FTO, which I find of relevance for publication.

My comment 1) about focus on the novel findings is now in the text not only in title and abstract. The comments 2), 3) and 4) are now much easier to understand in the text and the tables are arranged so that it is easy to distinguish baseline and follow-up analyses. The statistical issues 5) and 7) are handled in footnotes of the tables. I didn’t know the Fto abridgment, why not introduce it as all other abridgments?

I have no further suggestions, accordingly I recommend publication of the paper.

My signed report can be passed on to the authors. If the manuscript is accepted for publication, my signed report can be posted on the website along with the article and the other reviewers’ reports.

Regards,

Liselotte Petersen.

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