Reviewer's report

Title: Effects of lifestyle and single nucleotide polymorphisms on breast cancer risk: A case-control study in Japanese women

Version: 2 Date: 4 October 2013

Reviewer: Emanuele Leoncini

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Minor Essential Revisions

I think this manuscript should be considered for publication, it is well written and clean. I only have a few issues that I think need to be addressed

Method

The use of parity as continuous variable is unfortunate. Why did not authors use this variable categorized as nullipara, 1, 2 and 3 or more? Moreover, standard deviation (SD) was used in table 1 for parity but SD can be used for variables that have a normal distribution.

Discussion

In the discussion section, you state that “A high education level has been associated with increased breast cancer risk, but this may be explained by highly educated women …tending to be obese due to overnutrition”. This statement is too vague. Are you sure about the statement that "highly educated women having tending to be obese due to overnutrition"? A reference can be useful.

Table 1

Title: Include the number of subjects and a time specification (recruitment period: from … to)

Legend: The sentence "OR of continuous variables denotes…” should not only be included in the legend here, but also in the method section

Tables 2 and 3

Legend: The sentence "OR of continuous variables denotes…” should not only be included in the legend here, but also in the method section

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.
Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests