Reviewer's report

Title: Vitamin D deficiency in girls from South Brazil: a cross-sectional study on prevalence and association with vitamin D receptor gene variants

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Reviewer: Sowmya Krishnan

Reviewer's report:

Well written paper with good description of basic science methodology. Few concerns are:

Review the opening sentences in the abstract. It is very weak. Vitamin D deficiency has been associated with multitude of disorders including diabetes, defective insulin secretion as well as rickets and poor bone health and the statement that it is associated with "some association with disorders of growth and development" seems weak.

My only other comment is that it is still not clear what the clinical relevance of this paper is and which could be better clarified by the authors. Vitamin D levels will always be easier to measure than vitamin D receptor genotype and so how is making this association between vitamin D level and Vitamin D receptor haplotype useful?

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare I have no competing interests