Reviewer’s report

Title: Health related quality of life of obese adolescents in Kuwait

Version: 1 Date: 2 April 2013

Reviewer: Bamini Gopinath

Reviewer’s report:

This community-based study of adolescents in Kuwait addresses a gap in published literature, by presenting data on the association between obesity and quality of life (QOL) in adolescents from the Middle East. However, the analyses that is presented in the manuscript is currently inadequate and requires major revision before it can be accepted for publication.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1) The objective in the Abstract requires re-wording, it is currently unclear and confusing to the reader.

2) In the results section of the Abstract, please specify the difference in PedsQL summary and total scores for each comparison.

3) The conclusion section of the Abstract is also not clear, it could be reworded as: ‘Obesity in adolescents living in Kuwait is not associated with QOL scores’

4) Were there any significant differences in study characteristics between those included compared to those excluded from the study? This comparison needs to be performed and the data presented in the paper.

5) This study has largely ignored the influence of a range of potential confounders that could influence the relationship between obesity and QOL primarily, socio-economic status (e.g. parental education, occupation etc); dietary habits and intakes; physical activity and sedentary behaviors, all of which could influence QOL scores.

6) The data on the association between overweight and QOL scores needs to be presented as well, and not just the relationship between obesity QOL.

7) Also, there is no mention of the association between weight status and each of the individual PedsQL domains e.g. emotional function, social function and school function. These data need to be presented in the revised manuscript.

8) There is no explanation offered in the Discussion section of the manuscript as to why associations were observed mainly in obese girls but not obese boys, i.e. authors need to hypothesize as to what underlies the observed sex-specific association?

9) The cross-sectional design of the study should be highlighted as a potential limitation in the Discussion section.

Minor essential revisions
There are a number of grammatical errors throughout the manuscript which requires to be corrected.

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests