Reviewer’s report

Title: The effects of individual, family and environmental factors on physical activity levels in children: a cross-sectional study

Version: 2 Date: 24 February 2014

Reviewer: April Oh

Reviewer’s report:

Minor revisions:

1) The abstract makes a recommendation for policy change. The discussion and conclusion sections of the manuscript do not appear to strongly argue for a specific policy change. A policy change recommendation is outside of the scope of the paper given the study limitations and sample. Please revise the abstract conclusion so that it is aligned with the conclusions stated in the manuscript.

2) On line 339, should this be revised to “individual factors” or “characteristics?” The authors should be aware that individual factors are more proximal to the individual so it is not surprising that results found they were stronger predictors of physical activity.

3) Define “mainstream” for the journal’s international audience.

4) On line 100, what do the authors mean by “potentially sensitive questions?” Please clarify.

5) The paper cited in line 311 is for self reported height and weight in college students. The self reported height and weight citation that would be a more appropriate comparison is parent reported height and weight.

6) Line 316: Clarify the statement: “survey mode of stata.”

7) Please refer to “hobby” or “favorite activity” consistently throughout the paper.

8) Line 227: The authors suggest policy strategies. Please be more specific here. It is unclear that policy recommendations can be made given the scope of the paper and its limitations.

9) Line 335: Delete this sentence. It is unclear how this relates to the sentence in line 334.

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

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.