Reviewer’s report

Title: Body composition variables as predictor of NAFLD in obese children and adolescents

Version: 1 Date: 18 September 2013

Reviewer: Wagner Prado

Reviewer’s report:

Major Compulsory Revisions
The authors should avoid terms such as diagnosis or identify NAFLD in the whole manuscript (mainly in the aims). The cross-sectional design does not see predictors of NAFLD, the authors should change the terms, it’s can be made only in prospective studies.

Once NAFLD diagnosis is a dichotomous variable (absence or presence), in my opinion the Spearman’s correlation coefficients is not the appropriated approach to verify relationship between variables (Did you conducted this analysis with the continous values of IAAT with anthropometric values?). I am not a statistical expert, but a logistic binary regression seems to be more adequate to this analysis.

The analyses were conducted in all volunteers or separated by gender? Why table 1 presents the results separated by gender? If gender is an intervenient outcome, the authors should conduct the analyses in this way.

Would be helpful a professional language edition in the manuscript.

Discretionary Revisions
The authors should describe more in deep the procedures to assessment of Intra-abdominal adipose tissue. The information regarding what muscle was assessed is essential to the interpretation of the data.

Table 3 is not necessary, figure 1 do a great job.

Minor Essential Revisions
There are some missing references, mainly in the introduction.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

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