Reviewer's report

Title: Association of Self perception of weight with actual weight in adults presenting to primary care clinics in Pakistan: a cross sectional study

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Reviewer: Sara Kirk

Reviewer's report:

This paper discusses an interesting and relevant issue of how overweight and obese individuals tend to underestimate their weight. It also addresses this issue from the perspective of a specific population, i.e. residents of Pakistan. However, this issue has been widely studied elsewhere, as the authors themselves acknowledge in the discussion. Given that there are studies that already address this issue, it is surprising that the authors have not used existing tools/questions to determine mis-classification of weight in their study. This would have strengthened the paper considerably, and enabled comparison to other similar studies. This limitation, along with numerous errors in written English, makes this a difficult paper to review. As it stands, this paper is, in my view, of limited interest and originality.

Major compulsory revisions

1. Written English is a major barrier - the paper was hard to read and the description of methods, ethics, and statistical analysis were particularly unclear. These sections should be re-written for clarity.

2. The authors use a rather subjective way to determine misperception of weight, with response to a question — “Do you consider yourself as a) slim b) About right c) Overweight d) Obese. Given the existence of other research involving the topic of measuring or classifying misperception of weight, the authors should discuss the limitations of this question, which is likely to have been very subjective. The term "slim" in particular is a difficult word to define. Did the authors provide definitions to participants? Was any pilot-testing done on the questions included?

3. Can the authors explain why they did not use previously published questions? The authors cite the work of Johnson-Taylor et al (2008), which used an interview to determine mis-perception in a much larger sample. Can the authors also explain why they chose to administer a questionnaire rather than conduct an interview given that participants also had their weight and height measured?

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited
**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests