Reviewer's report

Title: Neighborhood fast food restaurants and fast food consumption: A national study

Version: 3 Date: 3 June 2011

Reviewer: Lorna Fraser

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Major Compulsory Revisions
1. The use of dichotomous vs continous FF availability measures in the urban vs rural strata. Whilst I appreciate the reasons behind the difference in the availability measures this makes comparisons between the results difficult. You should report both results for all 3 strata to allow the reader to see the full results.

2. Your measure of FF availability is different and your rationale is quite clear but there is no acknowledgement in the discussion of the narrow range of these measures(medians of 0, 2 and 3) and the impact this may have on your results.

3. Interaction terms: you comment on interactions between car ownership & FF availability and also sex and FF availability. It has been shown in many studies that FF availability is greater in areas of higher deprivation but there is no comment regarding any interaction terms using your poverty variables.

4. Table 3 showing the sensitivity analysis is much clearer but where are the descriptive statistics for the other FF availability measures, what are the medians etc for the total number of FF outlets including local outlets.

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

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 I have no competing interests.