Reviewer's report

Title: Nationwide shifts in the double burden of overweight and underweight in Vietnamese adults in the period 2000 - 2005: two national nutrition surveys.

Version: 1 Date: 29 June 2010

Reviewer: Alessandra Goulart

Reviewer's report:

- Major Compulsory Revisions

The manuscript written by Ha T.P. Do et al. “Nationwide shifts in the double burden of overweight and underweight in Vietnamese adults in the period 2000 - 2005: two national nutrition surveys” is very interesting and relevant. However, there are some issues and limitations regarding the outcome that need to be clarified and revised.

1. Abstract and introduction: The author should clarify the statements regarding the study period in the abstract and the introduction sections. It would be better to describe that the data was collected in two cross-sectional periods (2000 and 2005) instead of “in the period 2000 to 2005”.

2. Methods: The author never mentioned about the prevalence of some comorbidities that are more frequent among older people, as cancer, chronic illness which are associated with lower BMI, even in a pre-clinical stage. Further, the author did not consider the additional adjustments by cigarette smoking, physical activity and educational level as well as he did not perform separate analyses after excluding participants who were current or former smokers.

3. Results: the results are limited to age and sex-stratified analyses. It would be very informative adding some information regarding to educational level, diet, physical activity and smoking habits.

- Minor Essential Revisions

There are some track-changes in the references section that need to be accepted by the author.

- Discretionary Revisions

The author should consider analyzing the national shifts in the double burden of obesity and overweight according to educational level.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable
**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