Reviewer's report

Title: Fluid intake patterns: an epidemiological study among children and adolescents in Brazil

Version: 1 Date: 25 May 2012

Reviewer: Carlos Castillo-Duran

Reviewer's report:

Methods:
- The authors must comment what is the universe where the sample was drawn. Is it the universe the Brazilian children and adolescents or the urban Brazilian children and adolescents?
- How the sample size was calculated? Did the sample size estimation included the age groups or gender?. What does it means random sampling?
- If the authors analyzed the results by ANOVA or t-test, they need to assure if the samples or subsamples present a normal distribution.

Introduction and Discussion
- If the study assessed fluid intakes, they need to comment the impact of tropical environment, moreover if they compared them with those for children living in other latitudes.

Minor Essential Revisions:
Starting on the Abstract, the authors must change the term Calorie or caloric. The internationa unit for energy requirements or intake is Joule (or KJ or MJ); Kcal is commonly also used. Thus, they studied energy intakes as fluids, expressed as KJ or Kcal.

Level of interest: An article of importance 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.