Reviewer's report

Title: Associations between obesity, socio-demographic factors, life events, lifestyle and psychological well-being in older Europeans

Version: 1 Date: 15 November 2011

Reviewer: Fiorella Marcellini

Reviewer's report:

Minor Essential Revisions:
1) Please explain in the methods the motivation of using new variables with interaction of sex in the regression models and include in the discussion the results obtained for the variables adjusted/not adjusted.

2) Please indicate clearly in the tables the new variables created after centring for the mean and multiplying by sex; there are two different notation, such as “Age * sex” and “General mood 1, where 1=controlled for sex”.

3) The authors should try to run the models firstly with all the original variables including sex and then using only the variables controlled for sex, to assess if the model is more powerful.

4) Please, enrich the discussion part on the resilience results, as it is the most interesting and innovate part of the analysis.

Discretionary Revisions:
5) The overall aim of the paper is in line with the current research topics in the field of the positive psychology and well-being effects on protecting and enhancing health. The work of Carol Ryff on psychological well-being dimensions and its protective role should be cited, to support both the discussion and the introductive part.

6) The choice of the tools and questionnaires should be better justified, most of all the reason of using shorten version, instead of the full one. Of course, the psychometric dimensions of the different versions were taken into account, but a more exhaustive battery for construct as resilience, depression (trait) would have been better.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.