Reviewer’s report

Title: Acculturation, immigration status and cardiovascular risk factors among Portuguese immigrants to Luxembourg: findings from ORISCAV-LUX study

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Reviewer: Ana Santos

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Title: Acculturation, immigration status and cardiovascular risk factors among Portuguese immigrants to Luxembourg: findings from ORISCAV-LUX study
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This paper aimed at describe the prevalence of cardiovascular risk factors between native Luxembourgers and Portuguese immigrants and to examine the effect of generation, proportion of life spent in Luxembourg and language proficiency or preference on overweight/obesity among Portuguese immigrants, and to elucidate the role of socioeconomic, behavioural and dietary factors in overweight/obesity differences among the 2 populations.

Major Compulsory Revisions

My main point has to do with the statistical power required to study the aimed association. That is, do the authors think that the sample size obtained regarding the Portuguese subsample is enough to answer the study objectives?

I do realize this wasn’t probably one of the primary objectives of the ORISCAV-LUX study, but nevertheless, when we propose to study a secondary objective using previously collected data, we must be sure that the sample size will allow us to answer our aim. I think that this may be a major limitation of this study, one that should be very difficult to preclude.

Also, another important issue relates to the method selected to evaluate dietary habits in this population. It seems that the authors used a food frequency questionnaire constructed and validated for the Canadian population. Choices made when construing a food frequency questionnaire such as building a food list, food portion sizes or frequency options are usually population specific and should not be directly used in other populations with surely different food habits. Moreover, this problem may even be enlarged in this study, due to the different population background, as illustrated by the high proportion of immigrants in this sample.

Minor Compulsory Revisions

Introduction:

Fourth paragraph: this first sentence needs a reference were these observations
were reported.

Methods:
Major comments already stated above
Page 7 – more detailed information is needed on the construction of the acculturation score. How the individual scores were weigh in?

Results:
Thorough the results the authors always compared the crude with the adjusted estimates. I think this is unnecessary. Once it is established that there is fact confounding by age and gender, the crude results are not relevant, since they are affected by this. Thus, since the crude and adjusted estimates are described in the tables, I think the results section would benefits if the text only referred to the adjusted estimates.

Discussion:
Already stated Major Compulsory Revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

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