Reviewer’s report

Title: Prevalence of metabolic syndrome in Brazilian adults: a systematic review

Version: 1 Date: 27 October 2013

Reviewer: Jorge Escobedo

Reviewer’s report:

This is an interesting review of published articles related to the Metabolic Syndrome. The revision is comprehensive. However, the main drawback is estimation of the global prevalence. The authors state that they have estimated a weighted prevalence, but it seems a crude prevalence. The authors do not take into account basic differences, such as age and sex differences on prevalence that should be included in their estimation of a real weighted prevalence. It seems that gross differences as observed in the city region prevent the authors to estimate a global prevalence for Brazil, since such a value has limited significance.

The authors make some comparisons on the global prevalence of Brazil which may be influenced by the extreme prevalences observed. A real weighed prevalence should take into account the distribution of indigenous population in Brazil, while taking into account that the prevalence of MS in the two studies on indigenous population ranges from 35.7 (in 606 subjects) to 65.3 (in 150) with no description of the selection process of the studied population.

The authors should provide in their table a column describing the selection process of the studied population.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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