Reviewer’s report

Title: Metabolic syndrome in a cohort of Chinese schoolchildren: prevalence rates in different definitions and factor pattern analysis

Version: 1 Date: 26 June 2012

Reviewer: Punithavathi Narayanan

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Major Compulsory Revisions:

1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined?
   The title says that the study is examining the prevalence using different definitions and factor analysis. But the objective is not in line with the title stating that it wants to examine the role of adipokines in the clustering metabolic risk factors.' The difference in prevalence using different criteria is to be expected. So the purpose of this paper is not very clear since it does not state that one criteria is better than the other in predicting future cardiovascular morbidity or further progression of the syndrome

2. Though they acknowledge that IDF suggests that MS as entity is not diagnosed below the age of 10 years it is not clear why the authors included that age group.

3. Obesity could have been defined using IDF cut off points instead of one recommended by Working group on obesity in China. That will be helpful while making comparisons across regions and during met analysis.

4. They conclude that ‘Leptin/adiponectin was strongly associated with central obesity, and may be taken as a possible component in MS.” Central obesity is an easy measurement which can be carried out in the field and it is not clear how adding Leptin/adiponectin will improve the definition of MetS?

5. Though English is probably not the first language of the authors the manuscript has many grammatical errors that are distracting to the reader.

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

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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'