Reviewer's report

Title: Development of a quantitative food frequency questionnaire for Brazilian patients with type 2 diabetes

Version: 3 Date: 4 June 2013

Reviewer: Koutatsu Maruyama

Reviewer's report:

Comments for the Author

This manuscript showed the development of FFQ for type 2 diabetes mellitus patients. It was well established and reasonable FFQ. However, there are several issues to be addressed.

Comment 1

Please add the detail of final FFQ, i.e. the number of questions for food items, preference and seasoning in the last paragraph of the result section.

Comment 2

Did the researchers consider about the food preparation methods to decide the calculation and selection for each nutrient and food?

Comment 3

Page 4;

In this study, the authors considered seasonal variation to select the food items, so they corrected almost same number of the sample in each season. Were the ratios of gender equal in each season? If not, were there biases from these differences in each season?

Comment 4

I do not understand why they need the food consumption frequency per “year”. The food which consume some times per “year” may not contribute to estimate their habitual nutrient and food consumption. The authors need to indicate why they did it.

Comment 5

The authors used “NutriBase Clinical® software” to get the information about nutritional composition of each food and regional preparation ingredients. Is this information valid for Brazilian habitual diet style?

Comment 6

Please show the range of age.
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.