Reviewer's report

Title: Chronic disease burden associated with overweight and obesity in Ireland: the effects of a small BMI reduction at population level

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Reviewer: Jan-Magnus Kvamme

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Reviewer 1
Chronic disease burden associated with overweight and obesity in Ireland: the effects of a small BMI reduction at population level

This is a well written paper addressing the cumulative burden of chronic diseases associated with overweight and obesity in Ireland. The research questions are clearly defined and the methods are sufficient described.

Major Compulsory Revisions
(1) With regard to further details of the SLAN 2007 survey, the reader is guided to the reference 13, see page 5. However, I would like you to the authors to include some basic information about the attendance rate in this survey. If this was low, this should be commented on in the Discussion.

(2) The chronic diseases included in the analysis cover both diseases for example lower back pain, osteoarthritis and risk factors for disease as hypertension and raised cholesterol. These distinctions should be included in the text (Page 6, second paragraph).

(3) Table 2 contains quite much information and could be commented on in the text with some more details, i.e. lower back pain, hypertension and raised cholesterol were the most prevalent conditions increasing with higher BMI.

(4) The limitations of the study are discussed on page 14. All the conditions were self-reported and it is possible that blood pressure and cholesterol had been measured more frequently in the overweight and obese individuals compared to the normal weight individuals. This potential bias could be included in the discussion.

Minor Essential Revisions
(1) In figure 1, the vertical lines should be explained; I would think they represent 95% CI?

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