Reviewer's report

Title: Socio-economic patterns of overweight, obesity but not thinness persist from childhood to adolescence in a 6-year longitudinal cohort of Australian schoolchildren from 2007 to 2012

Version: 3 Date: 29 January 2014

Reviewer: Tim Olds

Reviewer's report:

The authors have substantially improved this paper through their revisions. However, some work remains to be done.

Major compulsory revisions

Both reviewers pointed out that this research design cannot be used to show trends in prevalence, since cohort studies confound age-related and secular trends. However, the paper still shows evidence of this original aim. For example, on pp9-10, the sentence beginning "Thus it appears..." still refers to prevalence trends. The first line of the abstract focuses on this issue as well. I encourage the authors to read very carefully through their paper, to be sure the focus is crisply on the issue of the relationship between SES and weight status and how it changes, or doesn't, with age. They should delete any mention, except in the background, of trends in prevalence, which this study cannot adequately address.

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

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