Reviewer’s report

Title: Correlates of Objectively Measured Overweight/Obesity and Physical Activity in Kenyan School Children: Results from ISCOLE-Kenya

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Reviewer: David Jimenez-Pavon

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Manuscript:
‘Correlates of Objectively Measured Overweight/Obesity and Physical Activity in Kenyan School Children: Results from ISCOLE-Kenya’
Stella K Muthuri, Lucy-Joy M Wachira, Vincent O Onywera PhD and Mark S Tremblay PhD BMC Public Health Research article

This manuscript is a well write work on an interesting topic such as PA and obesity in Kenyan School children. However, from the point of view of this reviewer the manuscript needs to be shortened in some specific sections and redundant text.

Major compulsory revisions:

Background
- Page 4, 2nd paragraph. The classical and overall guidelines for 5-17 yrs old are 60 min of MVPA as the authors stated. However, other cut-offs have been suggested to be related and with age and gender-specific information (Andersen et al. 2006; Jimenez-Pavon et al. 2013). Then, this reviewer suggest to cite these different cut-off and to consider the possibility of performing sensitivity analyses using them.

- Page 5, first paragraph. The authors mention that growing numbers of research studies are not nationally representative. Do the authors suggest that the current manuscript is nationally representative? Please explain that.

- In overall, the introduction should be shortened and focused in the main aim.

Methods
- Page 6, 2nd paragraph. The sentence “Given that much of the knowledge…..in north America and Europe” needs a reference/s to support that affirmation before the next “there is…”.

- Page 8, direct measures: the cut points used are based on Treuch et al validation, however, this reviewer wondered whether this validation is useful for PA GT3X. Moreover, I suggest performing sensitivity analyses by other cut-off as you know there are important differences by authors.

Result
- The 1st paragraph seems to be more appropriate of the sample description for the methods section.
- Page 10-11. Participant and parent characteristic: this big paragraph should be simplified as redundant information should be avoided.

Discussion

- Page 13. Second paragraph. I would suggest starting the discussion section by a summary of the main results of the paper.

- Page 16, parental factors paragraph. This positive association is quite curious as is in the opposite direction of expected based in developed countries findings (Jimenez-Pavon et al. 2010; Jimenez Pavon et al. 2010). Then, of relevance should be to discuss the different results found in undeveloped countries compare to developed countries. It is important to note that in the current study to have higher SES give the chance to better food availability and to sendentary behaviours. However, in developed countries higher SES provides the better access to sport facilities and healthy foods as well as the parent are more aware of the real necessity of doing PA for prevent against obesity.

- Page 18, 1st paragraph. AS mentioned before these results are also inverse to findings in Europe (Jimenez-Pavon et al. 2010; Jimenez Pavon et al. 2010), then please include this references and locations in the text.

References:


**Level of interest:** An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

**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