Reviewer's report

Title: Cardiorespiratory fitness and the incidence of type 2 diabetes: a long cohort study of Japanese male athletes

Version: 2 Date: 20 March 2014

Reviewer: Susumu Sawada

Reviewer's report:

The authors investigated the relationship between cardiorespiratory fitness and diabetes among male athletes.

This paper is interesting and informative and adds valuable information on how cardiorespiratory fitness may be related to a lower risk of type 2 diabetes in this specific population of Asian male athletes. Recently, type 2 diabetes has been dramatically increasing worldwide. Thus, this paper's topic is important. There are no major issues. However, there are several minor issues in this paper. The authors should revise or consider the following.

Title
1. Authors should remove "long" (throughout the paper). In general, we don't use "long" or "short" in relation to a cohort study. This study is small rather than long.

Abstract

Methods
2. Authors should provide the median of the follow-up period or the observed man-years.

Results
3. Authors should remove "lifestyle". There are few lifestyle covariates in their models.

Background
4. The author should alter "The National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey" to "The National Health and Nutrition Survey".

Results
5. Authors should provide the median of follow-up period.

Discussion

Paragraph 2
6. I suggest changing "incidence" to "prevalence". Because these studies are cross-sectional.

Paragraph 6
7. Authors should describe the "maximal oxygen consumption" instead of "Vo2max".
8. Authors should discuss the possibility of "recall bias" in the study limitations.

Conclusions
9. Delete the space before "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.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.