Reviewer's report

Title: Distribution of lipid parameters according to different socio-economic indicators - The EPIC-Norfolk prospective population study

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Reviewer: david orlando leon

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The paper "Distribution of lipid parameters according to different socio-economic indicators - The EPIC-Norfolk prospective population study" by Shohaimi and co-workers present a cohort study carried out in Norfolk, UK, addressing the correlation among four different lipid indicators (total cholesterol, HDL cholesterol, VLDL, and triglycerides) and socio-economic variables (occupational state, educational level, and the privation index measured with the Index of Deprivation of Townsend). The authors found significant differences in the lipid profile related to the occupational group and to the educational level; this difference was higher for women than for men.

One of the merit of this study is the sample size (25,639 subjects were included) which adds robustness to the results. The study was well design and impeccably analyzed. The authors cited relevant papers previously published in the subject. The language and redaction are clear and easy to follow.

Minor Points:

1- The tables show in an appropriate and synthetic way the results and are properly commented in the text. However we suggest to review the captions and to shorten them: they are too long and most of the information is already presented in the main text.

2- Although the bibliography provided is not short -23 cites-, the newer reference is from 2003. I would like to know the reason for not including references from the last decade.

Finally I would like to recommend to the authors for future works that instead of using the Frankfurt plane to measure the size of individuals older than 60 years old -which is known that falsify the results- to employ the heel/knee index or to calculate the hemi-brace length.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare no competing interests.