Reviewer’s report

Title: Association between Television Viewing and the Risk of Metabolic Syndrome in a Community-based Population

Version: 3 Date: 19 March 2008

Reviewer: David W Dunstan

Reviewer’s report:

Please number your comments and divide them into

- Major Compulsory Revisions

NO MAJOR COMPULSORY REVISIONS REQUIRED.

The author must respond to these before a decision on publication can be reached. For example, additional necessary experiments or controls, statistical mistakes, errors in interpretation.

- Minor Essential Revisions

PAGE 15: LAST PARAGRAPH. IT IS STATED THAT ‘DUE TO A STRONG CORRELATION BETWEEN PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND PHYSICAL INACTIVITY (OR SEDENTARY BEHAVIOUR), THE EFFECT OF LENGTH OF TIME SPENT WATCHING TV ON THE RISK OF HAVING METABOLIC SYNDROME COULD POSSIBLY BE CONFOUNDED BY PHYSICAL ACTIVITY’. HOWEVER, SEVERAL REPORTS HAVE NOW REPORTED THAT A VERY WEAK CORRELATION EXISTS BETWEEN PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND SEDENTARY BEHAVIOUR.

Indeed, this manuscript describes very modest correlations between physical activity and sedentary behaviour (TV). In light of this evidence, this paragraph will need to be revised accordingly.

The author can be trusted to make these. For example, missing labels on figures, the wrong use of a term, spelling mistakes.

- Discretionary Revisions
NO DISCRETIONARY REVISIONS REQUIRED.

Declaration of competing interests
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details below.

**What next?:** Accept after minor essential revisions

**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.