Reviewer’s report

Title: Food consumption patterns in the Waterloo Region, Ontario, Canada: a cross-sectional telephone survey

Version: 1 Date: 30 May 2008

Reviewer: Carol Byrd-Bredbenner

Reviewer's report:

Study is unique in that it links commonly consumed foods and foods posing a food safety risk.

The manuscript is well written, scholarly sound, and contributes to the literature.

Some minor, perhaps essential, points that would enhance clarity:
Please provide a brief rationale for using proxy respondents and note the limitations associated with this.

Please describe how, in a 25-minute interview, all the foods in Table 2 could be surveyed.

Page 14, last paragraph related to gender. Your data could provide more detailed information. See, for instance:

In fact, it would be very useful if you could identify those high-risk foods that were consumed by gender & age group. Consider present these data in a table like Table 2.

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