Reviewer's report

Title: Relationship between body image disturbance and incidence of depression: the SUN prospective cohort

Version: 1 Date: 24 June 2008

Reviewer: Erol Ozmen

Reviewer's report:

The introduction, methods, results and discussion sections are appropriate and well described. In general authors have done a good work but I would like to make some comments:

Minor Essential Revisions:

1. I think body image disturbances could not be defined as “overestimating or underestimating body image”, it should be replaced with “overestimating or underestimating body size”.

2. It is impossible to reach a conclusion as “people with high educational level tend to correctly assess their body image” with the findings of this study.

3. Participants who have been excluded from study may effect the results. This should be mentioned in the discussion section.

4. Body image disturbance and body dissatisfaction are not synonym of each other. This should be mentioned in the discussion section. Because this may also be one of explanations of dissimilar findings of this study.

5. There is a need more explanation about the interpretation "the lack of association between body image disturbance and incidence of depression in our study could also be explained because of the possibility that this relationship is in fact reversed". I am not sure if reversed relationship between body image distortion and depression could also be an explanation of the findings of this study or not.

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