Reviewer's report

Title: Use of television, videogames, and computer among children and adolescents in Italy

Version: 3 Date: 17 March 2009

Reviewer: Moniek van Zutphen

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript improved a lot by the recent revisions made by the authors. An interesting article which is almost ready for publication.

Minor essential Revisions

1. Language changes:
   Abstract
   (…) and computer use in children (…)
   (…) for 1.6 daily hours and spent more time than those younger (…)
   (…) in order to diminish time spent at the television (…)

   Introduction
   (…) physical and sports inactivity (…) and videogame playing [1-3].

   Methods
   Page 4. The questionnaire (…) playing videogames, computer use, and performing sports activity; (…) Computer use is mentioned twice in this sentence, probably one should be deleted.
   Page 4. Videogame playing indicated playing games on either (…)
   Page 5. (…) plays videogames, and uses the computer.
   Page 5. (…) watching TV, playing videogames, or using the computer.
   Page 5. (…) supervise TV watching, playing videogames, and using the computer.
   Page 5. (…) a pilot survey was conducted to test question formats and sequence to an appropriate (…).
   Page 5. Replace authors’ institution by the name of the institute.

   Results
   Please reformulate the first sentence. Now too much information is given within one sentence, please use at least 2 sentences.
   (…) and computer use of the study participants are presented in Table 2.

   Discussion
   (…) high amount of time spent in viewing TV.
2. Introduction
TV, videogames, and computers may influence children and adolescents perceptions and behaviours. What kind of perceptions and behaviours?

3. Please add a third paragraphs about the family environment and it's importance with TV time etc. Also explain, at least a bit, what you mean by family environment. In this way it is clear why you study part b of your research question.

4. Methods
Mean minutes per day of performing sports activity was included in the models, while the questionnaire asked about the time spend in sports during a typical week. Was a transformation made? Please clarify.

5. Table 1.
Is the SD of height 1m? I would expect a different number.

6. Table 2.
Playing videogames alone. This could be understood in two ways: not with somebody else or no other computer use.

7. Table 3.
I would prefer if the variables would be in the same order (when possible) in all models, in stead of the order by p-value. This would make it easier to compare the influence of the variable between models.

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**
I declare that I have no competing interests.