Reviewer's report

Title: Association of socioeconomic status with overall overweight and central obesity in men and women: the French Nutrition and Health Survey 2006

Version: 1 Date: 5 February 2009

Reviewer: Marie Aline Charles

Reviewer's report:

Major revision

p 3 Background; p 9 Discussion; Conclusion : “The prevalence of overweight and obesity is lower in France than in most industrialized countries »
Prevalence of obesity in France is certainly lower than in the UK and eastern Europe countries but not lower than in neighbour countries in western Europe such as the Netherland, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway Italy, Spain… There is no reason to make a special case for France.

Conclusion l 5-9: References needs to be provided for these two affirmations or the sentences should be deleted.

p 6 : Methods: Principles of the methods for weighing the data needs to be provided as well as the characteristics of the sample according to the weighting variables before, after weighting, and similarly in the reference french population.

Minor revision

p 6: Characteristics of the subjects: Can the author add some information about the comparison of subjects who did or did not participate into the study (at minimum distribution according to area of residence) and on reasons for refusals?

p 7-8: Results: Age is accounted for in 2 broad categories in the multivariate analysis. Residual confounding with age is possible. For example, it may explained the high OR for obesity in retired women persisting after age adjutment.

P 9, l 16: the relationship between little job control and lille leisure-time physical activity is not obvious to me.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.
Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'