Reviewer's report

Title: Correlates of quality of life of overweight patients: a pharmacy-based cross-sectional survey

Version: 1 Date: 13 January 2009

Reviewer: Katherine Applegate

Reviewer's report:

• Major Compulsory Revisions

NONE

• Minor Essential Revisions

1) Abstract: In the US, the grouping of “self-employed” workers and “top executives” would not occur because these labels are generally associated with different socio-economic categories. Please adjust or clarify the term “self-employed” for this context.

2) Background section: The first sentence of the second paragraph is difficult to read, please re-phrase. Also, same paragraph, change to “…between obesity and cardiovascular disease…” not diseases, no subject verb agreement.

3) Background section, paragraph 3: The authors state that understanding factors that influence QoL could impact interventions for obesity. This is not necessarily accurate, but at least, should be more thoroughly explained.

4) Background section, paragraph 3: Please expand on the age related reference as it relates to this study.

5) Background section: Specific hypotheses to be tested by this study would be helpful prior to beginning the Methods section. This would also better define the questions to be tested in the study.

6) Background section: Please discuss in this section the rationale or benefit of using pharmacies as the study site, as the recruitment location represents a unique and relevant aspect of this study.

7) Methods: How representative is this sample for France compared to the general population? What percentage of the population is on a prescription medication?

8) Methods: Please expand on why this assessment of QoL was used compared to other measures.

9) Methods: Data collection section, paragraph four has a spelling error (pour).

10) Methods: Do many people in this population participate with more than one
pharmacy? This could affect the assigned medical diagnoses tally.

11) Results: How may have the limited question items on dimensions 3 and 4 affected the results. Ideally, the assessment of these domains would have been more comprehensive.

12) Discussion: Please clarify how the age difference (i.e. reference to younger patients) may have impacted relationship domain. Data seems limited to conclude it is related to physical appearance.

13) Discussion: What criteria were the pharmacists using to determine if a patient should be approached to participate in the study?

14) Discussion: Is there any data available on these patients’ mental health status or usage of psychotropic medication?

- Discretionary Revisions
NONE

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

**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.