Reviewer's report

Title: Dietary patterns in Canadian Men and Women Ages 25 and Older: Relationship to Demographics, Body Mass Index, and Bone Mineral Density

Version: 2 Date: 5 January 2010

Reviewer: Tania Winzenberg

Reviewer's report:

This paper remains of interest to the musculoskeletal/bone health area. The authors have addressed the main issues of the reviewers and the methods and results presentation is much improved. Final improvements could include:

Results – page 11 first paragraph – specify the calculation for the difference in factor scores i.e. energy dense – nutrient dense or nutrient dense – energy dense. Second paragraph – give direction of association between difference in scores and BMI.

Discussion

The main findings of interest to the readers of BMC Musculoskeletal are the BMD associations and in fact the stated aim of the study is around the relationship of dietary patterns and BMD. In view of this, I strongly suggest that the BMD findings are placed more prominently at the beginning of the discussion and also in the conclusions.

I note that the authors continue to use the wording “none of these results were conclusive” on page 14 rather than stating clearly that the results were not statistically significant. I reiterate that giving the p-values for the coefficients in Figures 1-3 would assist the reader in the interpretation of this data.

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'