Reviewer's report

Title: Insulin resistance (HOMA-IR) cut-off values and the metabolic syndrome in a general adult population: effect of gender and age. EPIRCE cross-sectional study.

Version: 2 Date: 2 June 2013

Reviewer: Fumihiko Kamezaki

Reviewer's report:

This cross-sectional study examined the influence of age and gender on the proposed cutoff levels of homeostasis model assessment of insulin resistance in order to identify subjects with metabolic syndrome. The authors responded to most of the reviewer’s concerns and the revised manuscript has been significantly improved from the previous submission. The reviewer still has several minor comments that should be addressed.

Discretionary Revisions:

#1. In the 13th paragraph of the Methods section, “.. 126 mg/dl” should be changed to “.. 7.0 mmol l-1”.

#2. When this study includes subjects with the use of antidiabetic drugs, the authors should show the number of the subjects and the details of such drugs (Methods, 14th paragraph).

#4. Again, the authors should show the numbers of each age group in Table 3 and 4.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.