Reviewer's report

Title: Risk of type 2 diabetes according to traditional and emerging anthropometric indices in Spain, a Mediterranean country with high prevalence of obesity. Results from a large-scale prospective cohort study

Version: 1 Date: 29 November 2012

Reviewer: Stefan Söderberg

Reviewer's report:

The paper “Risk of type 2 diabetes … ” by Huerta et al is well-written and timely interesting.

However, I have the following points.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. The protective effect of peripheral obesity is discussed but never tested. I would like to see an analysis of the importance of waist after adjustment for hip, and not as a simple ratio that probably decreases the impact of waist. Furthermore an analysis of the protective role of hip circumference after adjustment for waist. This was previously done by Cameron et al, and it would be very interesting to see if this also applies to a Caucasian population. See below.

2. I am bit confused by the date set for the diagnosis of DM. It is either exact day or midway day between first report and previous negative report. Wouldn’t be more consistent to use midway day for all time points, irrespective of drugs or self-report. DM has long phase undetected irrespective if the diagnosis was set by drugs or self-report.

Minor Essential Revisions

3. SI units should be used consequently for an international audience

4. As the population obviously is not population based, the effect of selection bias should be discussed. Could these data be generalised? Furthermore, the huge dominance of women in the population raises concern about the generalizability.

5. The supplementary analyses related to Suppl table 1 to 5 is more confusing than clarifying, consider deletion.


Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I have no competing interests related to this manuscript