Reviewer's report

Title: Colonic Epithelial Telomere Length and Oxidative DNA Damage in Type 2 Diabetes.

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Reviewer: Nicholas Tentolouris

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The authors of this interesting study examined differences in the telomere length in both the colonic epithelial cells and the total mucosal cell population between normal controls and subjects with type 2 diabetes mellitus. They showed that the telomere length was not significantly different between the studied groups. Additionally, indices of oxidative DNA damage such determination of as 8-oxoguanine at tissue level were also not different between the two groups neither they were associated with the telomere length.

The research hypothesis is strong but the findings are negative. Although the number of the participants is small, the study has enough power as stated by the authors.

Comments:
1. It is well known that there are gender differences in telomere length at least in monocytes and white blood cells (i.e., women have longer telomere length than male of similar age). Were there any gender differences in telomere length in the study subjects? The authors should provide more 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.