Reviewer's report

Title: Salivary cortisol differs with age and sex and shows inverse associations with waist-hip ratio in women: a cross-sectional study within the Skaraborg Project

Revised version: Date: 13 May 2009

Reviewer's report:

The authors have revised the manuscript according to the comments.

The authors conclude that the finding of women in general showed higher cortisol concentrations was new. A previous study by Hansen et al 2003 (Hansen et al., 2003) concludes that they do not find a general influence of gender. However, it was stated in the results and discussion that ‘A significant gender difference could only be demonstrated in the cortisol concentrations 60 min after awakening.’ The study group in the Hansen et al study was small compared to this study. Hence the power of the study of Hansen et al may have been too small. However, the result clearly shows the same trend as presented in this paper (see figure 1). Hence the conclusion presented is only partly true. Please change the conclusion.

I can recommend the manuscript to be discretionary Revisions.

Reference


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

Quality of written English: Acceptable
**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests