Reviewer’s report

Title: Validity and reproducibility of folate and vitamin B12 intakes estimated from a self-administered diet history questionnaire in Japanese pregnant women

Version: 1 Date: 21 November 2011

Reviewer: giovanna turconi

Reviewer’s report:

COMMENTS TO THE AUTHORS
The manuscript deals with validity and reproducibility of folate and vitamin B12 intakes estimated from a self-administered diet history questionnaire in Japanese pregnant women.

The study is well conducted, the results are well presented and the manuscript is well written.

Nevertheless, it presents few inaccuracies that should be amended.

These are listed below.

MAJOR COMPULSORY REVISIONS

METHODS: DIET HISTORY QUESTIONNAIRE
First paragraph: lines 10-11: the authors wrote: “Five portion size responses were listed from less than half to more than half time a general portion size”: what do they mean with “more than half time? Please, clarify!

METHODS: BIOLOGICAL MARKERS
First paragraph: line 1: Blood samples were centrifuged….When were they collected? Please, give a brief description!
First paragraph: lines 2- 3: …were measured using a chemiluminescent enzyme immunoassay within six months: give a detailed description of the analytical method or put a reference about this method.

METHODS: GENERAL QUESTIONNAIRES AND DATA PROCESSING
First paragraph: line 2: …and educational levels using questionnaires: were the questionnaires self-administered or administered by interview? In this last case, who interviewed the woman? Were the interviewers standardized? Please, give information!

MINOR ESSENTIAL REVISIONS

METHODS: DIET HISTORY QUESTIONNAIRE
First paragraph: line 7: change nutrients with vitamins

METHODS: VALIDATION STUDY
Second paragraph: line 2 : change nutrient with vitamin
Second paragraph: line 5: change nutrient intakes with vitamins intakes
METHODS: REPRODUCIBILITY STUDY
Second paragraph: line 9: change nutrient intakes with vitamins intakes

RESULTS: VALIDATION STUDY
Third paragraph: line 1: change nutrient intake with vitamins intake
Fourth paragraph: line 1: change nutrients with vitamins

CONCLUSION
First paragraph: line 2: to their nutrient intakes: delete nutrient

**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' below.