Reviewer's report

Title: Construct validity of a figure rating scale for Brazilian adolescents

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Reviewer: Samuele Cortese

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Major Compulsory Revisions

The abstract states "background" but actually the "background" section reports only the aim…please provide a short background…why is this study important?

"The study was carried out with adolescent students attending three public schools in an urban region of the municipality of Florianopolis in the State of Santa Catarina (SC)" should come before “the sample comprised…”

results: “The construct validity hypothesis was that heavier adolescents would choose larger body contour shapes; and that in girls, body image dissatisfaction would increase as BMI z-scores rose.” The hypothesis does not belong to the result section, but to the background, after the aims!!

Introduction:

“Body dissatisfaction is associated with the etiology”: more than an etiologic factor, it’s a risk factor..

Although the authors explain the reasons why they chose the scale adapted by adapted by Childress et al, they should also mention other available tools, such as the tool by Veron-Guidry S, Williamson DA. Development of a body image assessment procedure for children and preadolescents. Int J Eat Disord.1996;20:287-293.)

Under construct validation hypothesis:” the present study will correlate data”…this is more pertinent to a grant text..in the paper, authors are advised to use the past tense (“in the present study we correlated..)

I think that the discussion is generally good but lacks of information about possible application of this tool…the author may want to mention , as possible application, the study in the general population on the correlation between body image dissatisfaction and BMI by means of novel statistical approaches such as splien function and cite for example The relationship between body mass index and body size dissatisfaction in young adolescents: spline function analysis. Cortese S, Falissard B, Pigaiani Y, Banzato C, Bogoni G, Pellegrino M, Vincenzi B, Angriman M, Cook S, Purper-Ouakil D, Dalla Bernardina B, Maffeis C. J Am Diet Assoc. 2010 Jul;110(7):1098-102.
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: N/A