Reviewer’s report

Title: Association between dietary patterns and metabolic syndrome in a sample of Portuguese adults.

Version: 2 Date: 2 July 2012

Reviewer: YOONJU SONG

Reviewer’s report:

Overall comments
In this revised manuscript, the points I raised have been addressed well. However, there were minor issues that I would like the authors check again.

Minor Essential Revision

1. I would suggest revise the statements of conclusion in abstract below.

‘Four distinct DPS were identified in a community sample of Portuguese adults and there was no association between the prevalence of MetS ~ ’

2. I would suggest add one more keyword of ‘finite mixture model’.

3. Regarding the finite mixture model, the authors explained that multinominal regressions of pattern prevalence were taken because of correlations of food consumption with age or total energy intake. Does it mean that age or total energy intake was adjusted for pattern prevalence (distribution)? The benefit in the use of finite mixture models is to consider covariates of interest in identifying dietary patterns? If so, you don’t need to adjust covariates when modeling in Table 4.

4. In Discussion section, the authors mentioned that ‘in the present study, food non-consumption was not treated as a continuous variable’. What is food non-consumption?

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 declare that I have no competing interests.