Reviewer's report

Title: Fruit and vegetable intake and characteristics associated among adolescents from southern Brazil

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Reviewer: Renata B Levy

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Fruit and vegetable intake and characteristics associated among adolescents from southern Brazil.

The paper aim is to assess the intake of fruits and vegetables and their association with sociodemographic characteristics among adolescents from southern Brazil. I consider an important topic for nutrition and public health.

Material and methods

Sample size: “the sample size needed to detect a difference of one serving of fruits and vegetables a day between smoker and non smokers with a ratio of 1:1…..it doesn’t have anything to do with you paper aim, has to be explained.

Studied variables: it is important to justify the choice of variables such as smoking and alcohol. How do these variables help to answer the study objectives?

Diet Evaluation

Here is the article’s biggest problem. The authors considered in the computation of “five a day” the consumption of rice and beans. I unaware references that consider this foods as part of the "Five a Day".

Discussion

Care should be taken with the main conclusions of the study. It is unacceptable to say that the prevalence found among adolescents for “five a day” is 60%. Classification of rice and beans as fruit or vegetables is huge mistake.

I suggest reviewing the classification that includes rice and beans as vegetables. Both classifications the “Five a Day” and the consumption of “Five serving with different colors”.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a
statistician.