Reviewer’s report

Title: Association between fruit and vegetable intake and frequency of breakfast and snacks consumption: cross-sectional study

Version: 1 Date: 6 May 2013

Reviewer: Meizi He

Reviewer’s report:

Overall impression

The manuscript explored the relationship of meal patterns and FV consumption. The research question was clearly defined. The dataset was from a large cross-sectional study with appropriate data collection methods. The data analyses and data reports were however confusing. Some of the discussion points contradicted the results and conclusion. The abstract was not clearly written. The overall writing needs a lot of work (e.g., grammatical errors and poor logical flow).

Major Compulsory Revisions

Abstract:
• The method section should include information re FV and meal pattern measurement instruments
• Gender and age showed to be “modifying factors” – should be “moderators”

Introduction:
Confusing sentences - please rewrite
“The variables in this research such as fruit intake and vegetable intake and frequency of snacks and breakfast consumption, were observed separately in order to permit for possible variations in the associations between fruit and vegetables and meal type.”

Data analysis:
Please justify why “Low frequency of fruit and vegetable consumption” was used as a parameter when applying the multivariate logistic regression analyses, which included covariates.

Results:
• The data presentation needs to be reworded to improve clarity
• “modifying factor” – should be “MODERATOR”

Discussions:
Misinterpretation of the results - “Breakfast did not seem to be determinant of vegetables intake.”
Your result indicated that “A significant association between irregular breakfast intake and low frequency of vegetables consumption were found (OR=1.31 (1.07-1.60))”

Minor Essential Revisions
Please improve your writing and get someone to proof read it!!!

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.

Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?
no

Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?
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Do you have any other financial competing interests?
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