Reviewer's report

Title: Effects of short-term fructooligosaccharide intake on equol production in Japanese postmenopausal women consuming soy isoflavone supplements: A pilot study

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Reviewer: Johanna W Lampe

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Minor Essential Revisions

Sorry that I did not make the suggestion regarding post hoc power calculations clearer. Although a power calculation run before the start of the study suggests that a relatively small sample size would be needed to show a difference, the null effects and lack of trend in the data suggest that the data may be more variable than expected. Doing a power calculation using the data generated as part of this study may be a more effective estimate of the sample size needed.

This manuscript still needs additional copy-editing for English.
For example (and these are by no means all the errors)
Abstract, line 4 and Page 4, line 15: isoflavones should be singular (isoflavone)
Page 8, line 22: 'consisted' should be 'consistent'

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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