Reviewer's report

Title: Portion sizes of traditional and non-traditional foods and beverages consumed by Inuit adults in Nunavut, Canada.

Version: 1 Date: 28 November 2012

Reviewer: Karen Barton

Reviewer's report:

This paper is well written and provides a valuable insight into the eating habits and portion sizes of Inuit adults, which can be used in developing nutritional interventions aimed at disease prevention and reducing the current obesity rates.

Minor Essential Revisions

In the abstract results you mention the most commonly consumed traditional foods with no percentage for the number of consumers then in the next sentence say "In contrast ....." but it is not clear what you are contrasting as there is no comparative figure to the >85% in the previous sentence.

Discretionary Revisions

I would suggest that the title, abstract and aim highlight the reporting of eating habits, rather than the focus being solely on portion sizes as there is a substantial amount of reporting of eating habits throughout the paper.

Throughout the text and in the tables all the weights are reported to one decimal place. Is there any reason for this? In any weighed dietary survey it is unlikely that you would weigh food and drink to this accuracy as most portable food scales weigh to one gram only, also as these are estimated weights you would definitely not estimate food weights to this degree of accuracy, I therefore question the need for this level of detail. If you feel that it is necessary can I suggest that you round up the figures in the text, particularly those in the abstract?

In the last paragraph of the introduction (page 5) you mention energy dense foods and low energy foods, should the low-energy be low-energy-dense?

It is not clear in the methodology exactly how the portion sizes were calculated. The methodology states that "Portion size was defined as the sizes in which foods are served at home and the units in which they are consumed in one sitting." however on looking at the results, I would query the very large portions for some of the items e.g. heart or kidney, raw char, goose and swan eggs, coffee, tea, liquor and wine - are these really the portions served/consumed or is this the amount over a period of the day for tea / coffee / liquor and wine? Have the amounts per day been divided by the number of times per day and how can one sitting be determined from a QFFQ?
Quality of written English: Acceptable

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