Reviewer's report

Title: Validity of the Australian Recommended Food Score as a diet quality index for Pre-schoolers

Version: 1 Date: 28 January 2014

Reviewer: Chrystalleni Lazarou

Reviewer's report:

This is an important study, since validation of dietary indexes in pediatric populations are scarce.

A few suggestions:

Results

lines 159-160, 183-185, 192-194 should be moved in discussion

lines 171-177, should be moved in methods

Discussion

A comparison with findings from other validation of dietary indexes studies in children, is needed.

Strengths & Limitations

Have you taken into consideration over, under reporting and physical activity parameters?

Since this sample comes only from rural areas, wouldn't be more accurate to mention that results cannot be generalized?

References

In refer 8, is better to cite the relevant paper publication, instead of the poster presentation (Lazarou C, Panagiotakos DB, Spanoudis G, Matalas AL. E-KINDEX: a dietary screening tool to assess children's obesogenic dietary habits. J Am Coll Nutr. 2011;30(2):100-12.)

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests