Reviewer's report

Title: Dietary patterns and colorectal cancer: results from a Canadian population-based study

Version: 2 Date: 21 November 2014

Reviewer: Nadia Bastide

Reviewer's report:

Authors’ responses to the previous review are satisfactory. I recommend acceptance after a few minor corrections:

- Minor Essential Revisions

Abstract
Results: “After adjusting for potential confounding factors, the Meat-diet and Sugary-diet patterns were significantly associated with an increased risk of CRC. In contrast, the Plant-based diet pattern was significantly associated with a reduced risk of CRC. The observed association remained consistent across three cancer sites: the proximal colon, the distal colon, and the rectum”. Authors should be less affirmative in their abstract: for colorectal cancer p trend is not significant, and results differ among cancer sites.

- Discretionary Revisions

Methods
Data collection, last paragraph (l.95): a space is missing between 673 and controls.

Results
First paragraph (l.137): a space is missing between 673 and controls.

Tables:
Table 1: a space between n and (%) would make the table easier to read.
Table 3 and 4: if possible, confidence intervals should be written on one line

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