Reviewer’s report

Title: Dietary intakes and food sources of fatty acids in diets of Guatemalan schoolchildren: A cross-sectional study

Version: 2 Date: 3 August 2009

Reviewer: Kiyonori Kuriki

Reviewer’s report:

Dear authors,

In Guatemalan school-children, this cross-sectional study was executed to assess fat intake and identify the food materials by means of a prospective 24-h pictorial registry. The authors suggested recommendable dietary fat intake should be shown to reduce cardiovascular diseases and the related risks in the population.

Special comment

1. This study showed dietary fat intake and the material foods sorted by gender and socioeconomic status (SES), but not associations between the intake and the risks for (cardiovascular disease), obese (including over weight), higher waist circumstance and abnormal levels of serum lipids.

2. SES was related with dietary fat intake, and therefore the intake might be one of confounding factors for the increased risks in the population.

3. Compared with European-American school-children studies (introduced in Background), dietary intakes of total fat, SFA MUFA, PUFA, n-6 PUFA and their SE were not so high in the subjects, and the values were also almost the same levels against the corresponding ones recommended by WHO.

4. Their hypothetical conclusion was not conducted in the study.

5. Results from the validity test were not shown in Material and Methods; each value for fat intake should be shown in the text.

6. This reviewer strongly suggests that this report should be summarized as Note, but Original article, in accordance with this journal policy.

Minor comment

1. Abbreviation “SES” in Abstract should be shown along with the full name.
2. In Abstract, the first sentence should be changes as follows: from "dietary … is …" to "dietary … may be …".
3. In Abstract, the ward "eicosapentaenoic acid" should be collectedly inputted.
Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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.