Reviewer's report

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

Version: 2 Date: 20 August 2009

Reviewer: Eva E Warensjo

Reviewer's report:

Bermudez et al have studied dietary fat intake in Guatemalan school children, assessed with a pictorial 24-h prospective diary complemented with a follow-on interview by a trained nutritionist. The intakes were then compared against WHO dietary goals for adequacy. In addition, food sources for dietary fat were investigated.

- Major Compulsory Revisions

This study is based on the notion that increased intakes of dietary fat in childhood may predispose for obesity and chronic diseases later in life. However, I am wondering why the authors haven’t attempted to analyse the data in lean vs. overweight/obese children in addition to the SES? Also, how large a percentage of this study group were overweight and how does this relate to national figures in Guatemala.

- Minor Essential Revisions.

1. Line 62; Typo n-3 LA and n-6 ALA
2. Please include age of the children not just the grade.
3. Line 112 typo: bough
4. Does all studies indicate that childhood obesity predisposes for adult obesity and subsequent disease? The association between a high fat diet in childhood and later obesity/disease is that also unambiguously proven? Please include comments if there are studies that do not show an association.
5. I guess there is a concern for report bias with the dietary assessment used in this study as well as in other studies. I think this should be touched upon in the limitations of the study.
6. Please include the names of the abbreviated fatty acids in the table footnote.
7. I am not sure if I understand entirely what the odds ratios means in this study? Please clarify.
8. Could tables 1 and 2 possible be combined since there are so many tables?

Level of interest: An article of limited interest
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.