Reviewer's report

Title: OBAYA: Obesity and cancer in young adults, feasibility of a population-based multiethnic cohort study using electronic medical records

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Reviewer: Mohammad H. Forouzanfar

Reviewer's report:

In a feasibility study of residents of KP in California, the authors tried to show whether implementing a big cohort study to answer the gaps in knowledge for rare diseases, the cancer in young adults, is feasible. With Thanks for the explanations, especially in discussion part, defining these points enriches the study for readers and helps to understand the assessment better.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1 – The length of the study is not clear. With 30% of loss to follow up, it would be a threat to the validity of the results even after 2-3 of 3-year period.
2 - What cancers are going to be measured? What will be your definition of the new cases? First ever? Issue of recurrence?
3 – With current rates of incidence of the cancers, the risk factor distributions, and desired associations; how much is the power to find the relationships? Is this sample size adequate? A table of objectives and the estimated power would be very helpful. It also answers the question on the length of follow up or sample size adequacy.
4 – With current rates of retention, how much would be the size of possible loss to follow up bias? What is the plan to find lost participants by record linkage? How successful would it be?
5 – What are the baseline characteristics of the participants by chronic diseases and cancers? Is it different by the retention status?
6 - What are your exclusion and inclusion criteria based on the current situation.
7 – What is the protocol for intermittent evaluation of the risk factors? Is it active or passive? It needs more clarification.

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