Reviewer's report

Title: Dietary iron intake, body iron stores, and the risk of type 2 diabetes: a meta-analysis

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Reviewer: Donald McClain

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The manuscript by Bao et al. “Dietary iron intake, body iron stores, and the risk of type 2 diabetes: a meta analysis” has performed a comprehensive literature search and meta analysis of papers reporting on the risk of diabetes associated with iron. They find an association of diabetes with intake of heme iron and ferritin that is not accounted for by inflammation. This is a timely review as several papers have continued to report on the ferritin-diabetes association while still debating the causality of that relation. The conclusion about heme intake and independence from inflammation is a significant step toward demonstrating causality. The review is well done and I have no criticisms.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare I have no competing interests.