Reviewer's report

Title: Mediterranean dietary pattern and depression: the PREDIMED randomized trial

Version: 3 Date: 8 July 2013

Reviewer: Ian Colman

Reviewer's report:

The paper has been significantly improved and will make an important contribution to the literature, particularly given the fact that it is a high quality RCT. There is only one issue that was not adequately addressed in the revised manuscript - the exclusion of the first three years of follow-up to avoid reverse causality. The authors make a compelling case in their response to the reviews that the key issue is that participants who are depressed at baseline are less likely to comply to the prescribed diet. However, they don't make this link between compliance and follow-up times in the manuscript. They only mention wanting a "sufficiently long induction period". This phrase suggests that there is a prolonged biological mechanism that links the intervention to the outcome, not that it is a methodological issue.

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