Reviewer’s report

Title: Obesity and overweight: prevalence and associated socio-demographic factors among mothers in three different areas in the Gaza Strip-Palestine: a cross-sectional study

Version: 1 Date: 2 March 2014

Reviewer: Bharati Kulkarni

Reviewer’s report:

• Major Compulsory Revisions

Comments on the analyses -

1. What were the considerations for calculating the sample size?
2. It will be better to use logistic regression to examine the predictors of overweight and obesity. In other words, use BMI as a categorical variable rather than a continuous one.

Comments on the presentation of the manuscript -

3. The manuscript has a number of grammatical errors that need to be corrected.
4. Introduction is too long. Please shorten it.
5. The results section is repetitive. Please do not repeat information from the tables.

• Minor Essential Revisions

1. While describing the data collection, use ‘we’ instead of the researchers (page 5, line 1). Alternatively, use passive voice.
2. Shorten the description of anthropometric measurements.
3. In the statistical analysis section, the authors mention using logistic linear regression with BMI as a dependent variable. This is not correct. I think they have used linear regression. I suggest using logistic regression with overweight/obesity as a categorical variable.
4. It is not clear from which committee the ethical clearance for the study was obtained.
5. Use past tense throughout to describe the results.
6. I suggest the authors should rearrange the discussion in following sub-sections: comparison with published studies, strengths and limitations, implications of the findings and conclusions.

• Discretionary Revisions
In table 3, include regression coefficients of all the variables rather than only selected few.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.