Reviewer's report

Title: Body mass index and lung cancer risk: A pooled analysis based on nested case-control studies from four cohort studies

Version: 0 Date: 25 Aug 2017

Reviewer: Randall Hughes

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2. I think the analysis similarly suggests a protective effect, either in survival of, or risk of, developing lung cancer with higher BMIs. Intuitively, I'm not sure I understand it, though. I believe long ago there was some relationship shown between COPD and developing lung cancer, independent of smoking, and the risk increased with severity of COPD as reflected by PFTs. It's been my observation that folks with bad COPD often lose weight at some point because they expend more and more energy on breathing.

   While data on PFTs in these populations probably was not available, might that play a role in these two groups?

3. If obesity is associated with other potentially competing causes of mortality—coronary artery/vascular disease, hypertension and diabetes—could these diseases have had more impact in the high BMI group? Again, probably difficult to extract this from the cohort studies

4. I suggest a statistical review only because I am not a real statistician.
Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
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I recommend additional statistical review

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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