Reviewer's report

Title: Potassium urinary excretion and dietary intake: a cross-sectional analysis in 7-11 year-old children

Version: 3
Date: 29 December 2014

Reviewer: JI-BIN Peng

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The study by Oliveira et al reported potassium and sodium intake by means of urinary potassium and sodium excretion in 7-11 year old children. Sodium and potassium intake is very important in maintaining body fluid volume and blood pressure. It is also related to the quality of diet, especially fruit and vegetable intake. Since data are limited for school children, this study provides valuable information in this area. Although limited in scope, this cross-sectional study is well designed and the data are solid. The manuscript is well written. However, there are Minor Essential Revisions to be considered as in the following:

1. Because sodium and potassium excretion increases with age (see Moriyama M1, Saito H. Twenty four-hour urinary excretion of sodium, potassium and urea in Japanese children. Tohoku J Exp Med. 1988, 154:381-8.), and the authors do not intent to study potassium excretion as a function of age, it would be better to narrow the age-range of the subjects. Because only one subjects was 7 year old, 4 were 11 year old, the data may not be representative for children at 7 and 11. It may be better to focus on participants from 8 to 10.

2. Line 113 “High blood pressure (BP) and hypertension [10, 11] are main risk factors for”

High blood pressure (BP) = hypertension, thus, the sentence could be changed as

“High blood pressure (BP) or hypertension [10, 11] is a major risk factor for”


4. Line 249: “and early one third was 9 years old.”

“early” or “nearly”?

5. Line 309 and Line 310, the abbreviations of SFA and PUFA were not defined in the text.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.