Reviewer’s report

Title: Impact of the intervention program “JolinchenKids – Fit and Healthy in Daycare” on energy balance related-behaviors: Results of a cluster controlled trial

Version: 1 Date: 29 Sep 2019

Reviewer: Russell Pate

Reviewer's report:

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This revised manuscript is substantially improved over the original submission, but there is still a lack of clarity regarding the relationship between the adherence information that is based on process data and the outcomes of the interventions. This manuscript does a better job of presenting the fact that the process and (apparently) the outcome is based on the specific intervention modules selected by the centers. However, the adherence categories are not clearly connected to the outcome analyses. For example, on 419 it is reported that 17 centers selected the physical activity module, and in Table 2 the distribution of children (but not centers, unfortunately) across adherence categories is presented. However, the findings of the outcome analyses for the centers opting for the physical activity module as presented on lines 444 to 464 and in Table 5 do not link to the adherence categories and it is not clear that intervention versus control comparisons are between children in centers opting for the PA intervention versus children in the wait-list centers. In order for the findings to be clear and meaningful, these relationships must be presented in a much clearer manner.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

Does the work include the necessary controls?
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Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
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Yes

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I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**

Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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