Reviewer’s report

Title: The associations between some biological markers, obesity, and cardiovascular risk in Slovenian children and adolescents

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Reviewer: João Duarte

Reviewer's report:

The subject matter is relevant to readers of this journal, and the question is entirely consistent, but the paper is not well written. Therefore, I think that this manuscript represents a worthwhile and significant contribution to the body of literature; however, I believe it would benefit from consideration of the points suggested to the author(s).

The age range is vast (i.e., eight months to 22 years of age). The authors did not use the young adults' sample group in the analyses.

Writing in the first-person direct speech is not suitable for scientific literature.

Some details should be improved, and others removed. I would recommend that the author(s) adjust the introduction focusing on the rationale of this research.

1. TITLE AND KEYWORDS
Repeated words used in the title (i.e., obesity and child/children).

2. ABSTRACT

Obese children with hypertension, NORMAL-WEIGHT children with hypertension
normal weight is missing a hyphen. Please homogenize.

Hypertension in comparison to THE control group
it appears that an article is missing before the word control.

In research GROUPS, significant differences in comparison to THE control group in clinical
it appears that you are missing a comma and an article is missing before the word control.

3. INTRODUCTION

(GENERAL COMMENT A): THE INTRODUCTION SEEMS TO BE INSUFFICIENT. THERE IS A LACK OF SOME SCIENTIFIC BIBLIOGRAPHIC SUPPORT. THE RATIONALE OF THE STUDY SHOULD BE HIGH-VALUED.
cardiovascular risk factors, it seems that you have an unnecessary comma.

that obese children are more likely to stay OVERWEIGHT in adulthood the word obese appears repeatedly in this context.

However, one of the CRUCIAL aims of preventive pediatrics The word important is often overused.

…it cardiovascular risk at an early stage, searching … it seems that you are missing a comma.

but receptors in THE hypothalamus and cerebellum it seems that you are missing a determiner.

THE SECOND PARAGRAPH HAS TWO HARD-TO-READ SENTENCES. PLEASE REFORMULATE THIS PARAGRAPH.

Adiponectin is produced by brown… The determiner THE is unnecessary in this context.

In A few studies published on ghrelin, lower values an article is missing before the word few. It seems that you are missing a comma.

we aimed to evaluate THE potential role an article is missing before the word potential.

METHODS

(COMMENT B): The age range is vast (i.e., eight months to 22 years of age). The group of authors defined different age groups; however, young adults are not used in the analyses.

Fasting blood samples were used to ASSESS leptin … The word "determine" appears repeatedly in this text.

… NORMAL-WEIGHT children with hypertension … normal weight is missing an hyphen.
We examined …
We used THE Pearson test and Analysis of variance …
The authors should not write in the first person.
An article is missing before the word Pearson.

Analysis of variance (ANOVA test) …
ANOVA is misspelled.

A significant statistical difference was defined as p<0.05.
ANOVA is misspelled.

RESULTS

THE characteristics of the four examined groups …
It seems that determiner use may be incorrect here

… diastolic blood pressure have ALSON been also found …
The adverbial also appears to be misplaced in this sentence.

… blood pressure in THE other two …
An article is missing before the word other.

… in A group of obese hypertensive children.
An article is missing.

Of note, A negative correlation …
The noun phrase negative correlation seems to be missing a determiner before it.

was found only in THE hyperlipidemia group
An article is missing.

In addition, THE positive correlation
An article is missing.

DISCUSSION

IN THE CURRENT STUDY, three research groups
Direct speech. Please reformulate along the text.
A comma is missing.

PAGE 11, line 58.
Similarly, the values of THE lipid profile of THE hyperlipidemia group showed …
Articles are missing.
"Values" appears repeatedly in this paragraph.

PAGE 12, lines 17-18.
… with no difference to THE control group.
Article is missing.

PAGE 12, lines 22-23.
… ghrelin concentration. IN CONTRAST, A statistically significant difference in adiponectin concentration …
Consider using simpler words.
An article is missing before the word statistically.

PAGE 12, line 37.
The concentration of adiponectin was the highest in A healthy population
An article is missing before the word healthy.

PAGE 12, line 52.
… ratio could be AN important parameter in obesity …
An article is missing before the word important.

PAGE 12, line 54.
… body structure HAD been …
The verb have in the dependent clause uses the wrong tense.

PAGE 12, line 58.
… was found only in A group of children …
An article is missing.

"Subgroup analysis of our patients showed that in the group of obese children and adolescents with hypertension a moderate negative statistical correlation between ghrelin/adiponectin and positive between leptin and anthropometrical parameters has been found, showing their good potential for assessing obesity, which was also confirmed by other studies [18,27]."
Hard-to-read sentence. Please consider splitting into two sentences.

PAGE 13, line 13.
… parameters has ALSO been found …
The adverbial also appears to be misplaced in this sentence.

PAGE 13, line 39.
In A recent study …
An article is missing.
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?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

Not relevant to this manuscript

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

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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