Reviewer's report

Title: A novel quantitative body shape score for detecting association between obesity and hypertension

Version: 2 Date: 6 October 2014

Reviewer: Sérgio Moreira

Reviewer's report:

The paper presents practical and clinical application to cardiovascular health care, specifically in the prediction of hypertension.

Some minor points will be observed and requested the authors to reflection and possible adjustments to accept the manuscript for publication.

Minor Essential Revisions

1) Due to specificity of the population evaluated (Chinese), we suggest the title identify such particularity/specificity.

2) Although we understand the goal desired by the authors, the summary does not present the goal clearly and set.

3) In summary, we suggest that the main results of the study, i.e. those that respond to objective, to be introduced quantitatively, aiming to support the reader to the understanding of the findings.

4) The first two sentences of introduction bring claims already established in the literature. I'd like to see authors/references being allocated for such information.

5) In the same way as in the summary at the end of the introduction is not clear the objectives proposed. I suggest rewriting so that it is clear to the reader about the overall objective of the work.

6) In the first line/row of subtopic “Study sample and measurements” has “…PLSPM model…”. Is it necessary the word “model”?

7) In the third line/row do subtopic “Data simulation” has “…anthropometric indexes included BMI, WC, HIP, SBP and DBP….”. SBP and DBP as anthropometric indexes?

8) I suggested to delete “…we…” in line/row 16 of page 9 (discussion) and to rewrite the sentence.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.
Declaration of competing interests:

I, Sérgio Rodrigues Moreira, declare that I have no competing interests below.

Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper, either now or in the future? No.

Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this paper, either now or in the future? No.

Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript? Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript? No.

Do you have any other financial competing interests? No.

Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper? No.