Reviewer's report

Title: Needs Assessment of School and Community Physical Activity Opportunities in Rural West Virginia: The McDowell CHOICES planning effort

Version: 2 Date: 9 January 2015

Reviewer: Manuel Coelho e Silva

Reviewer's report:

MAJOR

The manuscript titled: “Needs Assessment of School and Community Physical Activity Opportunities in Rural West Virginia: The McDowell CHOICES planning effort”

ABSTRACT: “About a third of children in McDowell County meet the national PA guidelines of 60 minutes or more daily”

Note that the section “methods” did not inform about the instrument that was used to assess PA.

Please clarify if they attain 60 minutes of physical activity, or moderate-to-vigorous physical activity.

INTRODUCTION #1

This section needs some specific literature about the sociogeographic determinants of sport participation, leisure physical activity, active transportation

INTRODUCTION #2

This section may also introduce the topic of built environment as a relevant aspect in studies devoted to assessment of community physical activity levels

METHODS: Town Hall Meetings

“During the meeting interested attendants responded to a survey of 9 questions (N=80).”

Please add information about the questions

METHODS: Physical Activity Interest Survey
“The survey included a list of 35 items pertaining to physical activities and sports deemed of interest to students in the county, and further 11 items on attitudes and norms around physical activity opportunities and participation”

What are the 35 items related to PA?
What are the 11 items on attitudes?
These instruments need some details about respective properties (reliability, validity, adequacy for the age group in previous studies)

METHODS: Student PA and Health-related Behavior Survey

“The survey included 30 items pertaining to physical activity and sedentary lifestyle, selected nutrition measures and questions concerning attitudes and ideas about physical activity.”

Again, what questions were used and the propertie.

METHODS: Analyses and Reporting

“The online physical activity interest survey responses were analyzed using Survey Monkey analytical tools.”

Please add a reference about previous studies that adopted the “Survey Monkey analytical tools”. I have never faced it.

RESULTS
The manuscript needs some tables and eventually a figure of graphic regarding the most relevant data.

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

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