Reviewer's report

Title: Development of waist circumference percentiles for Japanese children and an examination of their screening utility for childhood metabolic syndrome - a population-based cross-sectional study

Version: 1
Date: 30 August 2015
Reviewer: Mustafa Kendirci

Reviewer's report:

It's an original population-based cross-sectional study related to the development of waist circumference (WC) percentiles and WC to –height ratio percentile and to test their utility in screening for metabolic syndrome in Japanese children in Hammamatsu, Japan.

The length of manuscript is appropriate and its quality is quite high.

It has original data.

It may have priority for publication, as this issue is very actual nowadays.

The paper has been prepared meticulously.

The title describes the study accurately.

The abstract is informative and clear.

The authors state the question in the introduction.

The methods are clear.

Ethical guidelines are met.

The discussion covers all the findings

Minor essential revisions:

I think some minor revisions are necessary, which are;

1. In the methods; line 24, the formula has double ‘/normal weight’
2. The references are appropriate for the manuscript. But there are some writing mistakes in the name of literatures (numbers of literatures are: 15, 20, 23, 30, 47)
3. On the table 1; table legend (201?1), (‘BW’ for girls may change to ‘Weight’ as boys)

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

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