Reviewer’s report

Title: Overweight and Obesity among Women: Analysis of Demographic and Health Survey Data from 32 sub-Saharan African Countries

Version: 0 Date: 30 Oct 2015

Reviewer: Keisuke Kuwahara

Reviewer’s report:

The present study investigated the association of overweight/obesity with wealth, education, and so on using a cross-sectional dataset in sub-Saharan African countries. The prevalence of overweight/obesity by country level in sub-Sahara was already reported from the same survey in part (Steyn and Mchiza, Obesity and the nutrition transition in Sub-Saharan Africa. Ann N Y Acad Sci, 2014). In addition, the associations of overweight and obesity with household wealth and education was reported in some of the same country from the same survey (Ziraba et al., Overweight and obesity in urban Africa: A problem of the rich or the poor? BMC Public Health, 2009). Therefore, the authors should cite these papers and modify Introduction and Discussion sections for better explanation of what is already known and what is not on this topic.

My specific comments are as follows.

Title

1) I feel that title should be more specific to stress what is new in the present study.

   For example, association of overweight and obesity with education and so on.

Abstract

• Results

2) Please add the direction of the association to the description of the results.

Background

3) The prevalence of overweight/obesity among women from sub-Saharan countries was already reported (Steyn and Mchiza, Ann N Y Acad Sci, 2014). In addition, the association of overweight/obesity with wealth and education in some of the Sub-Saharan African countries were reported using the dataset from DHS (Ziraba et al., BMC Public Health, 2009). Please cite these papers where appropriate and improve the explanation about what is already known and what is not on these topics.

4) Please add reference to the end of this sentence: "and in developing countries the direction is not consistent"
Methods

Data resources and procedures

5) Please describe the total number of people who were invited to the multi-country survey in sub-Saharan as well as who participated in the survey.

6) If the authors excluded participants without data on BMI in the main analysis, please specify the number of the excluded participants in the text.

Measurements of variables

7) How the categories of relative wealth (poorest to richest) were defined? Quintile of the wealth in the total population? Please clarify this point.

Table 3

8) Please clarify what is the reference category in calculating ORs for residence, education, and wealth index, respectively.

Figure 1

9) Please do not use abbreviated county names or please explain the abbreviation in the figure legend.

10) What does the size of the circle for no education mean? Please explain.

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?
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.
I am able to assess the statistics

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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