Reviewer’s report

Title: Contextual influences on physical activity and eating habits - Options for action on the community level

Version: 0 Date: 04 Aug 2017

Reviewer: Eric Robitaille

Reviewer's report:

Interesting article revisiting the concepts of obesogenic environments, presenting a schematic representation essay, illustrating the concepts by an example and concluding on the challenges of this approach to action. However, there are some theoretical and empirical gaps in this article.

Line 90: the authors refer to the model of Swinburn et al. It would have been interesting to note that this model is inspired by the determinants of health in the Ottawa Charter (1986) and the model of Dahlgren and Whitehead (1991).

Line 101, the authors speak of community action, it would be pertinent to cite the work of Kumanyika et al. (2002), which focus specifically on the subject (Kumanyika, S., RW, JEFFERY, A. MORABIA, C. RITENBAUGH and VJ ANTIPATIS (2002). « Obesity prevention : the case for action », Int J Obes Relat Metab Disord. 26, No. 3, pp. 425-436.).

Line 139 to Line 167: a taxonomy of the obesogenic environments is attempted, however it focuses only on the micro environment, why? Because you work is at the community level, its important to mention it.

Figure 1: In your model, the notions of interactions between environments are missing, these interactions should be added schematically. We can see these interactions in the section on your example. It would have been even more interesting to combine Figures 1 and 2 into a single conceptual model. Moreover, from an ecological perspective, the concept of reciprocity is important, it would be important to mention it.

Line 169 to Line 194: An interesting example, but it would be even more interesting to illustrate it with your conceptual model. Add a figure (empty model), illustrating where the changes in the environment are.

Line 200: To complete this section, did you rely on written reviews, how you selected your articles to arrive at the conclusions in this section. It would be important to describe the method used here.

Line 204: it is mentioned: Mackenbach et al. [19] come to the conclusion that it is not consistent nor convincing. However, this review was limited to weight, not physical activity or diet. Can
you conclude the same thing? It would be important to mention it because your article is titled: Contextual influences on physical activity and eating habits. For example, there are a few written reviews for Europe only, for example on active transport (see: Built environmental correlates of cycling for transport across Europe.)


Line 222 to Line 262: The challenges presented are interesting, but I think there are others that the authors do not mention. For example:

The multiple environments in which people spend their time;

Longitudinal aspects of the obesogenic environment;

The challenge to measure the effects in real world.


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.

Unable to assess

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:

Acceptable

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