Reviewer’s report

Title: Predictors of Weight Loss Outcomes In Obesity Care: Results of the National ACTION Study

Version: 0 Date: 06 May 2019

Reviewer: Kufre Okop

Reviewer's report:

Paper Title:
Predictors of Weight Loss Outcomes In Obesity Care: Results of the National ACTION study

PUBH-D-19-00680

Abstract
Line 8: People with obesity - could better be referred to as 'persons with obesity' - in order to fit into context in subsequent usage in tect.

Line 11: adult PwO (BMI>30. adult should be deleted.

Lines 25-27: Conclusions: While these data do not establish causality or the direction of an effect, the study suggests a potential role for motivation of and engagement with PwO in weight loss success… This is correctly stated.

Study Design:
Lines 20-21: The study design should be specified before any other narratives.

Multivariate model and analysis
Multivariate model and analysis. This sub-heading should be better as "Data analysis'. Then the type of analysis can be described under this.

Line 61: A sensitivity analysis was conducted to determine the independent impact each variable How was this done. It is important to describe or summarize how this analysis was done, what it involves, in order to give a clear understanding to readers.

N/B: The kind of data analysis outlined in the data analysis do not have corresponding tables where these analysis and results are presented. Regression analysis results (in the Table) should be duly presented. Reference categories presented where needed.

The 'model' referred to in text, is not properly presented in Table 2. This needs to be presented to give more meaning. As it stands, I personally cannot get to figure out what model is fitted/presented.

Results

Line 51: BMI should be deleted - as it is redundant.
Table 2 has not showing the reference category in the comparison. This need to be undertaken
Result presented is not sufficient to explain the data analysis and the expected results.

Sensitivity Analysis
Lines 121, page 10: The "sensitivity Analysis" should be duly explained here.

Conclusions:
Data analysis (in the tables or figures presented) are insufficient to support the conclusions given. There is need for specific data analysis to support these claims.

References:
The dates of access of webpages should be updated (see reference Number 16, 17 and 19)
References need to be properly cited. See reference number 16, 17, 26

Summary comment:
The authors need to work on the analysis to be able to meet their claims on the results and conclusion.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

No

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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Acceptable
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