Reviewer’s report

Title: Diet Quality Trends Among Adults with Diabetes by Socioeconomic Status in the U.S.: 1999-2014

Version: 0 Date: 18 Mar 2019

Reviewer: Francis Finucane

Reviewer's report:

Reviewer comments for BEND-D-19-00084.

This paper describes a large repeated cross sectional analysis of NHANES at two time-points in adults with diabetes mellitus, examining changes over time in the quality of their diets, measured with the HEI, and also assessing the impact of education, income and food security on diet quality. There was a modest overall increase in dietary quality over 14 years. This was more or less equivalent size to the differences between the different socioeconomic categories, so that having low education, being poor or having low food security is approximately equivalent to losing 14 years of progress for affected individuals.

This is an outstanding paper. The introduction is clear, concise and well written. The methods are also clear - aside from a typographical error at the top of page six, there are no other problems with it. The results are clearly laid out in an accessible and meaningful way. The discussion is excellent. The tables and figures are fine. The authors are to be congratulated on an outstandingly clear and carefully drafted paper that will improve the understanding of the challenges faced for those with socioeconomic disadvantage.

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.

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:

Acceptable

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Nil relevant

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