Reviewer’s report

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

Version: 0 Date: 20 Mar 2019

Reviewer: Gudrun Dieberg

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting investigation into the dietary quality in adults with diabetes over time from 1999 to 2014.

The authors are using data from 8 cycles of the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) for the analysis.

Although dietary quality has increased overall, disparities continue to exist.

Not surprisingly, dietary quality varies depending on socioeconomic factors like education, income and food security.

The data presented in Supplemental Table 3 are not discussed - why include them? Should they be discussed? I think so!

HbA1c has not changed in the last 7 cycles. Could this have something to do with increases in medication (e.g. Metformin)?

Also, BMI has not improved, in fact it is probably getting worse - diet quality? etc

This paper is well written and presents interesting facts which are very informative for any health agencies concerned with optimal diabetes management and health promotion.

Minor correction for authors -

Abstract line 18 - you might want to mention that you included 8 cycles.

Methods page 6 line 1 - last word change 'od' to 'of'

Results page 9 line 31 - the HEI score should be 51.3 instead of 49.4
Same page line 43 - should the p value be added here - p<.001?

Same page line 48 - Figure 1 A?

Same page line 53 - add p value? and refer to Figure 1 B

Results page 10 line 12 - refer to Figure 1 C

Discussion page 11 line 7 - comprising 8 NHANES cycles

Same page line 29 - 'years behind the diet quality of their higher SES peers.' insert 'their'

Same page line 43 - start sentence with 'however' - I think it reads better

Discussion page 12 line 9 - 'Importantly, a healthy dietary pattern need not be expensive.' true - however, it is certainly easier when you are better off and when you have learned it from an early age. I would like to see a bit more discussion on this.

Discussion page 13 line 21 - 'lower SES and/or food insecurity' insert 'and/

References - please format carefully - some references have complete journal name and others are using abbreviations

Table 1 - in the line 'Mexican American' change 9..0 tp 9.0

Supplemental table 1 - explain abbreviations in legend

Supplemental table 2 - insert 'who' and delete 'a' in '... those who answered yes to being told s/he...'

Supplemental table 3 - please include units

It was a pleasure to read and review this work.

**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:

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