Reviewer’s report

Title: Type 2 diabetes as a disease of ectopic fat?

Version: 1 Date: 17 June 2014

Reviewer: Abd Tahrani

Reviewer’s report:

A concise, focused and very well written opinion paper. I have no major or minor comments to make. I have a couple of Discretionary points:

1. the authors might choose to mention about the rodent studies in which removing the sub cut fat had no metabolic impacts compared to removing visceral fat supporting the ectopic fat theory

2. the authors might choose to discuss the role of ectopic fat in compartments other than liver and muscle, such as the heart and the pancreas. The authors briefly mentioned the issue of ectopic fat in the pancreas but they could briefly expand on how does fat in the pancreas cause a problem

3. More discussion about the limited evidence available in which expanding sub cut fat compartment might be useful metabolically despite weight gain (similar to the glitazone story)

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

None