Reviewer’s report

Title: The potential impact of food taxes and subsidies on cardiovascular disease and diabetes burden and disparities in the United States

Version: 1 Date: 20 Apr 2017

Reviewer: Lennert Veerman

Reviewer’s report:

The authors responded adequately to my previous comments.

As I was trying to understand why the impact of the price changes, when using the low SES gradient, was to increase the disparities (Figure 2), I realised that one piece of information was missing: the relative frequency of the diseases by SES group at baseline. Table 3 contains sufficient information to calculate that the incidence rate for stroke is 52 per 100,000 for <HS compared to 68 per 100,000 for those with college, which explains the paradox. Nevertheless, the authors might want to consider adding the base rates to Table 1. Knowing what the magnitude of the current disparities is may interest readers as it puts the study in context. It outlines the overall public health challenge confronting us.

Finally, the English needs some editing. E.g., "... we considered a 10% of taxes or subsidies […], and similarly higher scenario of 30% price change" (line 105), "whom resided" (line 114), and "a price changes" (line 169).

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?
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I am able to assess the statistics

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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