**Reviewer's report**

**Title:** Urinary concentrations of phthalate biomarkers and weight change among postmenopausal women: A prospective cohort study

**Version:** 0  **Date:** 05 Dec 2018

**Reviewer:** L. Yaghjyan

**Reviewer's report:**

This is a well-written manuscript addressing important literature gaps and thorough description of all important design features and discussion. A few minor suggestions for improving the manuscript:

1. When describing the study population and nested case-control study used, the authors do not clarify that the cases were included before their diagnosis. They later explain it on page 8, but it would be good to clarify early on as well as it creates confusion.

2. Please comment on what types of containers were used for urine sample collection to avoid sample contamination with phthalates from plastic

3. Please comment on high CV for MHiBP 21.9%, and MEHP 19.5%, they are close to acceptable cut-off of 20%

4. As authors recognize themselves, there was a need for correction of significance level given multiple biomarkers tested. Why not to adjust p-value instead of saying that Type I error is possible. This would be a more sound and convincing approach.

5. In the discussion, would suggest to list study strengths first and then discuss the limitations

Table 1 - suggest presenting all variables with mean (SD) in the top part of the table and those with N (%) in the bottom; abbreviations need to be explained underneath the table

Table 2 - CI is missing in the list of abbreviations (also in Table 4)

Table 3- suggest spelling out WHI in the table title; OR, CI are missing in the abbreviation list for the table
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Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article of importance in its field

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

Acceptable

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