Reviewer's report

Title: Body shape expectations and self-ideal body shape discrepancy in women seeking bariatric surgery: A cross-sectional study

Version: 1 Date: 21 July 2014

Reviewer: David B Sarwer

Reviewer's report:

My recommendation is Reject.

The comments below can be send directly to the authors.

This is a well written paper that may be of interest to some readers of the journal. Unfortunately, it merely replicates (with a suboptimal methodology) what is already well established. Thus, the study does not advance the literature forward. More specific concerns are detailed below.

1. While the authors present a long bibliography, they missed numerous recent papers and reviews of this literature. Heinberg et al as well as Sarwer and colleagues have written extensively on these issues. A more comprehensive review of their work, prior to the onset of the study, likely would have led to a different methodological approach.

2. The sample size is relatively small. The cross sectional nature of the study is a limitation.

3. The figure stimuli have a number of limitations related to their appropriateness for those with extreme obesity as well as issues of ethnicity. There are several other measures that would have been more appropriate.

4. Standard deviations should be presented with the means.