Reviewer's report

Title: Improved metabolic health among the obese in six population surveys 1986 to 2009. The Northern Sweden MONICA study.

Version: 2 Date: 10 November 2014

Reviewer: Thang S Han

Reviewer's report:

- Major Compulsory Revisions

1. The major problem with this paper is the lack of information on medications. Overweight and obese people are more likely to take medications to lower their blood pressure and cholesterol levels. Therefore they may remain obese but have good blood pressure and cholesterol.

2. Why were patients with diabetes not considered in the analysis as having metabolic health problem.

3. I don’t think hypertension and hypercholesterolaemia alone should represent “metabolic health”. The present paper lack other metabolic features, crucially HDL, triglyceride and glucose levels.

- Minor Essential Revisions

1. Please be consistent with the term metabolic health. For example, in line 26 “…the people with metabolic health…” does not mean anything. Should it be “the people with POOR metabolic health” ?.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'