Reviewer’s report

Title: Prevalence of obesity among school-age children and adolescents in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) States: a systematic review

Version: 0 Date: 29 Sep 2018

Reviewer: Ju-Sheng Zheng

Reviewer’s report:

The authors conducted a systematic review on the prevalence of obesity among school-age children and adolescents in the Gulf Cooperation Council States. The results of this review suggested a very high prevalence of obesity among children and adolescents in this region, while the quality of the evidence is low due to lack of national representative survey data.

The general design of this study was valid and the results were of public health relevance. This reviewer has several suggestions to improve the manuscript.

1) Abstract: page 2 line 39-40, the literature search was up to July 2017, which was too outdated. Please update the literature search.

2) There are numerous typos throughout the manuscript: page 3 line 76 there should be no space between "income" and ",", similar for line 81 between "unclear" and ",", and line 83 between ",," and "many". Please proofread the whole manuscript.

3) Page 4 line 120-121: the authors should provide the full literature search details in the supplementary file to increase the transparency of the paper.

4) The authors stated in the Method section that the paper was performed according to the PRISMA guideline, but reported "AMSTAR" guidance, please provide more details on the difference of the two guidelines and use it/them consistently.

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.

Unable to assess

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?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

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

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.
I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal