Author’s response to reviews

Title: Association of parental body mass index (BMI) with child's health behaviors and child's BMI depend on child's age

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Editor comments:

• Title page

Please include the email addresses of all authors on the title page of your manuscript. The corresponding author should still be indicated.

We included the email addresses of all authors on the title page of our manuscript (Line 8-13) and also indicated the corresponding author (Line 15).

• Section headings
Please amend the section heading Introduction to Background.

The change is made (Line 44).

- Consent to participate

We notice information regarding consent to participate is included in the Methods section. Please also include this information in the Ethics approval and consent to participate section of the Declarations, along with whether consent was written or verbal. If the consent was verbal please include reasoning for this and state if an IRB approved this method of obtaining consent.

We included the sentence that the consent was written prior to data collection (Line 292-294). The consent process was approved by the IRBs of the participating institutions and organizations at the project sites as well as the evaluation center.

- Consent for publication

The Consent for publication statement refers to consent obtained to include any individual person’s data in any form (including individual details, images or videos). Therefore, please state "Not applicable" in this section as no personal information is provided in your manuscript.

The change is made (Line 296).

- Clean manuscript

At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures and additional files should remain uploaded as separate files.
We made clean version of manuscript, tables, and figures.

Reviewer reports:

Jennifer L Kuk, PhD (Reviewer 1): Thank you for addressing all of my concerns. One last point.

“Averaged across all age groups, parental BMI was significantly positively associated with FV intake (0.2 more times per day per 10-unit difference in parent BMI, p=.029)”. This seems like a very small effect to be significant. Please check and add error variance measures, also it seems strange to express it per 10-unit difference in BMI (page 8).

We have added information about this in our Discussion (Line 205). The difference is small in a day as you mentioned, but the difference would be 1-2 times more FV per week, which is potentially meaningful. The 10-unit difference in parent BMI means that a child whose parent has BMI 35 (class II obesity) would be 0.2 more times of fruit and vegetable per day, compared to a child whose parent has BMI 25 (overweight). This demonstrates that a large difference in parent BMI is associated with a very small, but statistically significant, difference in FV intake.