Reviewer’s report

Title: The home food environment and associations with dietary intake among adolescents presenting for a lifestyle modification intervention

Version: 0 Date: 28 Jun 2017

Reviewer: Margaret Allman-Farinelli

Reviewer's report:

The current rate of obesity in Canadian children makes it a very important topic to try and understand the influences on what they eat. The paper is well written and demonstrates a good grasp of the relevant literature. Secondary analysis of original data can be problematic because you do not necessarily control the data collection. I have a few queries.

Do you actually have a sufficient sample size to conduct SEM and has this influenced your findings in a negative manner. If so please describe in the limitations section. There a a number of surveys used to collect the data and I wondered if the validity and reliability have specifically been tested in obese children and their parents and if any systematic bias with body weight exists that might impact on your findings. If so please include in discussion.

I was interested that frozen dinners was included as part of an unhealthy food environment. In my country many of these have a low fat and low energy content and would be superior to common take-out foods.

It seems your main finding is that educated women of higher income have better health practices and buy healthier foods for their family environment. As children will eat what is available when they are hungry, better foods in the fridge and pantry will enable healthy choices. Of interest, despite this they have obese children and perhaps you might suggest looking for explanations outside this i.e. school and food consumption with peers when eating out. I believe this should be included in the conclusions.

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.

Yes
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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Acceptable

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