Reviewer’s report

Title: The Effect of Culinary Interventions (Cooking Classes) on Dietary Intake and Behavioral Change: A Systematic Review and Evidence Map

Version: 0 Date: 29 Nov 2018

Reviewer: Megan McCrory

Reviewer’s report:

1. Line 97. Ovid is listed twice, please remove one.

2. Lines 145-146. Need to define what the authors considered favorable and unfavorable nutrients.

3. Line 148 and 160. Need to define or elaborate on what the authors considered as "adequate" data and "insufficient" data.

4. Line 171. Please add an explanation for what "hand searching" entails.

5. Line 174. Please add an explanation for what is meant by a "pre-post study".

6. Lines 191-192. By definition, RCTs are randomized, yet line 191 says one of the problems was lack of randomization. Please clarify.

7. Lines 195-196. "Have" should be "had" (use past tense).

8. Lines 206-207. Revise last sentence: The overall mean difference was -0.07 etc.

9. Line 210. Use "was" instead of "is".

10. Lines 208-215. Although these changes were not statistically significant, the changes are impressive for just a cooking class. Perhaps this deserves a comment in the discussion. Clinically important? Also, were these changes independent of changes in body weight? Please clarify.

11. Lines 218-291. Change end of sentence to "…which also did not change significantly (p=0.58)."

12. Lines 233 and 237, and Table 1. The title of the table has "effect modifiers" not covariates. Please review and make consistent with explanation on line 233.

13. Line 251. Explain what the authors define as "better" energy density. Lower?

14. Line 255. Should say, "…significantly greater declines…"
15. Lines 270-271 and abstract. Would it not be more correct to say that there was no moderating effect of characteristic of the interventions such as its delivery or intensity (Table 1)?

16. Lines 284-316. This section consists mostly of several 1-2 sentence paragraphs rather than well-developed, fewer paragraphs. Please revise.

17. Tables and figures/supplementary materials. Recommend moving Tables 1-2 to the Supplementary Material, and moving Supplemental Figures 1-4 to the main paper as Figure 3A-D (i.e all on one page).

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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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