

Review of: "Obesity, Dyslipidemia and other Risks Factors for Metabolic Syndrome among Indigenous Black African Secondary School Students in Lagos, Nigeria"

Emanuela Gualdi-Russo¹

¹ University of Ferrara

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

In this paper, the two authors analyzed the prevalence of dyslipidemia and metabolic syndrome in Nigerian adolescents. The topic is interesting and the contribution is appreciable, especially given the general paucity of data on African populations.

The main issues I have identified concern the methodology used, as follows:

1. Anthropometry imposes precise rules in its application, and there are several aspects here that need to be supplemented or corrected. First, I suggest citing Anthropometry textbooks that report the methodology followed in the measurements (e.g., "Lohman TG, Roche AF, Martorell R. Anthropometric standardization reference manual. Human Kinetics: Champaign, IL, 1988." or "Weiner JS, Lourie JA. Practical Human Biology. Academic Press: London, 1981"). Second, I recommend using the more appropriate terms "stature" or "standing height" instead of the generic "height". Finally, one aspect that needs correction concerns the stature values that were reported in the table in m. In Anthropometry, the correct unit of measurement of stature is the centimeter. Presumably, the lack of significance of the statistical tests applied in sex comparisons can be attributed precisely to the use of the wrong unit of measurement.
2. Blood pressure seems to have been measured with different measuring instruments. Could this have resulted in a bias? This aspect could be developed in the Discussion.
3. Population and Methods. In the process that led to the selection of participants, it is unclear how 16 schools were chosen from the 616 others.

Finally, I suggest that the authors critically review the article by reporting strengths and weaknesses at the end of the discussion.

To conclude, if the authors follow the directions provided, the quality of the article should improve significantly making it suitable for publication.