

Review of: "Risk Factors and Predictors of Severe Acute Malnutrition Among 6-59 Months Children in Lumbini Province, Nepal: A Facility-Based Cross-Sectional Study"

Aymeric Darboux

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I have some point for the improvement of the paper.

First, it is not said in the paper what is the prevalence of SAM among the children included in the study. While you said in the discussion that it was hard to determine it, it is the first step before looking for risk factors.

Second, to be able to identify risk factors and predictors, we need to see at least the two groups that have been compared (Malnutrition vs No malnutrition).

Third, the sample may not be valid because children coming to Out-Patient Therapeutic Centers (OTCs) and Nutrition Rehabilitation Home (NRH) are generally those who suffered from malnutrition or are at risk of it. That made the comparison between malnourished vs well nourished very hard to identify real risk factors and predictors otherwise you say instead that you want to identify the relapse risk factors of SAM. Then you will add elements in the methodology to make it clear. Another suggestion could be (as it is done in evaluation design) to compare severe + moderate malnourished vs at risk of malnutrition OR compare severe vs moderate to highlight risk factors for SAM OR its severity.