# 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"

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1. **Title**: the study design and aims are clearly described in the title
2. Background and objectives are adequately covered
3. **Methods**:

Study setting, study population and data sources are well described. However, the sampling frame and how the selection of Nutritional Rehabilitation Homes (NRH) and Outpatient Research centers (OTC) was done to ensure representativeness. It is important to describe whether it was simple random sampling or stratified random sampling and whether or not it was proportionate to urban and rural population.

1. **Construction of variables**

Some of the variables used in the study are not well described for example the socioeconomic profile into five categories. Was it performed using factor analysis or principal component analysis?

What are the objective criteria used to classify ethnicity into three groups?

What is the validity of Shakir tape compared to the Weight for Height Z-score (WHZ) less than -3 SD in defining the outcome variable of interest i.e. severe acute malnutrition (SAM)?

1. **Results**

The authors need to use a flow diagram to describe participants flow at each stage of the project.

**Descriptive Table 1**

The authors need to specify in the footnote which test was used to examine the association or relationship between variables i.e. Chi-square test or independent t-test

**Table 2**

It is also important to specify which variables were included in the multivariate model

1. **Limitation**

The sampling strategy makes the findings NOT a true representation of severe acute malnutrition among underfives children in Nepal and thus affects generalizability of the findings.

The cross- sectional study design cannot be used to determine the temporal relationship between exposure and disease. It should be acknowledged as one of the study limitations.

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