

Review of: "There is high prevalence of overnutrition among married and cohabiting women in Nigeria: Findings from the 2018 Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Reviewer

Referee report on the paper:

There is high prevalence of overnutrition among married and cohabiting women in Nigeria: Findings from the 2018 Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey.

Comment on topic: I understand you use overnutrition to mean, both overweight and obesity?

Summary:

This study investigates the predictors of overnutrition among married women of reproductive age in Nigeria using the socioecological model (SEM) as a framework and hypothesized that the Southern region will have higher burden of overnutrition compared to the Northern region. The cross-sectional study design was adopted using the 2018 Nigeria Demographic and Health Survey. A total of 8531 non-pregnant married women met the inclusion criteria. Bivariate logistic regression and hierarchical multilevel logistic regression models were fitted, which were informed by the socioecological model framework.

I have the following comments/ questions:

1. Abstract

Some words are joined e.g., cross-sectionalstudy design, Theprevalence etc. Check this.

1. Introduction

- a. Page 1: You mentioned sub-Saharan Africa to have a double burden of overweight. Could you provide some reference? Also include some countries like this Kenya. To enrich your background I recommend you look at this recent Kenyan study by "Mutai, N. C. (2022). Estimating county level overweight prevalence in Kenya using small area methodology. *South African Statistical Journal*, 56(1), 1-19"
- b. Page 2: The line: Many studies have focused on obesity (≥ 30 body mass index [BMI]) [12][14][15]. However, we are focused on overnutrition, that is, weight 'above normal' (≥ 25 BMI) due to excess intake of nutrition among married or

cohabiting women. But overnutrition includes both overweight and obesity.

c. Overall: The gap doesn't come up clearly and is too short. Consider expanding the introduction.

1. Methods

a. Page 2: Is it National Demographic and Health Survey or Nigerian Demographic and Health Survey?

b. Page 2, what is ICF? Check other abbreviated phrases.

c. Page 3, section 2.2: Outcome variable: You classify BMI into two: underweight/normal weight and coded '0' while those with BMI ≥ 25 kg/m² were categorized as overweight/obese and coded '1' in accordance with previous studies. According to WHO, there are four categories for classifying overweight i.e., < 18.5 underweight, 18.5 to < 25 normal, 25 to < 30 overweight, and > 30 as obese. Isn't your classification mixing data sets?

d. Page 3, section 2.3: Independent variables: The DHS has a lot of variables, how do you select an initial 15 variables? Some study?

1. Results

a. Check that the percentages are correct.

1. Discussion

a. Our finding, however, is similar to the 31.95% reported in a Chinese Health Survey among married women [18], 36.4% in Canada [25], and 36.6% reported from the 2015 Zimbabwe National Demographic Health Survey [4]. Is it in order to compare studies across geographical locations?

1. Conclusion

a. Page 15: Conclusion: The prevalence of overweight among Nigerian married women is high. It is not all women, right? Married and cohabiting.

b. How are your results to inform policy?