Review of: "Nutritional Status and Dietary Patterns of Children Aged Ten Years and Below In the Buea Municipality, South West Region Cameroon"

Edwin Musheiguza[1]

1 College of Business Education

Abstract

Background – the paper is about malnutrition/undernutrition and not the double burden, may consider

Methods – which modelling technique was applied?

Results – the identified factors are based on nutritional status, however the last sentence is on wasting. Does the third sentence represent the cross cutting factors of nutrition status? Or which indicators are meant?

- Total number of participants should be identified

Conclusion – lacks policy implications

Background of the study

- The sentence "Malnourished children are more likely to grow into adults who are vulnerable to diseases and death" is unclear, consider reshaping it
- As the study is not about the double burden of malnutrition, the sentence "about 35% of deaths in children under age five in the world are attributed to the double burden of undernutrition and overnutrition" may need to recast thereby reflecting indicators of undernutrition in relation to number of deaths. Talk an wasting, stunting and underweight
- The last para lacks the gap of the study. what is known has been identified but the connection on what is not known and why matters is lacking, however the aim of the study was identified

Materials and methods

- Study design – what do you mean by health areas; are they hospitals, dispensaries,?
- Sampling – selection of study participants was based on snowball sampling. The technique is useful for identifying units with the problem of interest preferably malnutrition. If the recruited subjects were malnourished, how was the prevalence achieved? More description may be required
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- Data analysis- what could have happened if the sentence "Simple logistic regression was used to screen predictors at

p-value < 0.02, following the bivariate analysis" is true in univariate analysis thus variables with p>0.02 are excluded but when used in the multivariable model, the variables becomes significant at p<0.05.

- The section requires a detailed explanation on the study variables. Child malnutrition is accounted by a number of variables which may be grouped into child, maternal, household and community characteristics.

Results

- Table 1 – the row labelled "total" at the end of each variable may be deleted. Place the total number of study participants on the heading of each table. For instance, table 1: …….. (N=354)
- Table 2 – do the same as suggested n table 1
- Nutritional status of children aged 0 to 60 months and 61 to 120 months – the explanation corresponding to this statement is too long, may consider breaking down into simple sentences
- Tables on factors of undernutrition does not provide a detailed analysis of variables. From previous research, indicators of undernutrition is statistically significant associated with a number of factors, please consider adding variables as from other literatures.

Discussion

- Having one or two significant variables associated with undernutrition makes the discussion section too short and sometimes raises queries on if these results should be trusted.