

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

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I have reviewed the manuscript entitled "Nutritional Status and Dietary Patterns of Children Aged Ten Years and Below in the Buea Municipality, Southwest

Region Cameroon". This is an interesting study displayed some useful data, however there some areas of findings should be improved.

1. Abstract: a) in materials and methods session, number of sampled study units should be stated and better if sampling technique is stated. b) within results, it was better if you specify confidence interval of significantly associated predictors.
 2. Methods: - while sampling, you come up with a final sample size of 317 but you even didn't considered/showed non-respondents. The other is, in your result part you enrolled 354 and 302 be consistent with this number. Clear this issue before analysis.
- Why did you consider for design effect? Why have you used snowball technique? Couldn't you get sampling frame from local authorities or health system?
 - data analysis: you stated that you have used p value of 0.02 to screen predictors during bivariate analysis. How would it be? Is that to say 0.20?

1. Results: -response rate was not stated, it should be stated.

-Table should be attractive, indicating "Total" for each variable is not useful.

- Title of Tables and figures should be descriptive, indicate study area and time of the study.

Figure 1, numbers description is not clear, numbers with comma's.

- Bivariate table should be displayed.

- You analyzed with multivariable logistic regression, but you noticed as multivariate, it is better if you say multivariable.

- operational definitions should be stated or referred for Stunting, wasting, under nutrition, Dietary diversity score (DDS) and food frequency score(FFQ).

While assessing your manuscript it was noticed that some of mothers of the patients in your study are detailed to be 15-25 years old. Please clarify how many mothers in your study were under the age of 16. Participants under the age of 16 may not be able to provide consent for themselves, and subsequently, can not provide consent for their children to participate in research. Please clarify whether the consent from the underage mother's parents/take giver was obtained in these cases. Additionally, if there is local