Reviewer’s report

Title: Prenatal Micronutrient Supplementation and Postpartum Depressive Symptoms in a Pregnancy Cohort

Version: 2 Date: 17 August 2012

Reviewer: Kristen Hurley

Reviewer’s report:

Thank you for addressing my previous comments. The manuscript is improved. Below are my remaining questions/comments.

INTRODUCTION

Discretionary Revision

Last 2 sentences of first paragraph: Consider rewording to something like “PPD poses sig ph issue because of its impact on not only the lives of women themselves, but also on their children’s growth (3) and cognitive and social-behavioral development (4). If revised, consider removing words “health and development” from sentence above.

DISCUSSION

Minor Compulsory Revision

Page 15, last paragraph.

Given that data on maternal diet was collected, consider examining the relations between overall maternal diet quality, prenatal micronutrient supplementation, and postpartum depression (and adjust for overall diet quality if significant relations exist). It seems possible that maternal diet quality (as an indicator for better health and health/dietary behaviors) might confound the relations between prenatal MN supplementation and postpartum depression. If not re-analyzed, consider addressing in discussion.

Major Compulsory Revisions

Authors state in their response that prenatal nutrition status (weight, iron/anemia status) was not available for the analysis, consider discussing this as limitation (e.g. the inability to test if the effect of prenatal MN supplementation on postpartum depression varied by prenatal nutritional status)

Page 17, 1st paragraph – consider revising to something like…..

Implication for future research include examining objective measures of pre and postnatal micronutrient status to: 1) test relations between pre/postnatal blood nutrient levels (or changes in pre-postnatal blood levels) and postpartum depression, 2) moderating effect of prenatal blood nutrient levels on the relations
between prenatal MN supplementation and postpartum depression, and 3) interactions amongst nutrients and their effects on postpartum depression.

CONCLUSION (on page 17) and ABSTRACT

Major Compulsory Revisions

Given the limitations of the current study, consider limiting conclusions to considerations for future research rather than clinical practice.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interest