Author's response to reviews

Title: Development and acceptability testing of ready-to-use complementary food supplements made from locally available food ingredients in Bangladesh

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Dr. Peter O’Donovan
Executive Editor
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Subject: Submission of a research article for publication in BMC Pediatrics

Dear Dr. Donovan,

With 165 million under-five children suffering from stunting worldwide and 51 million children moderately wasted, malnutrition is the most common malady affecting children. For controlling this huge problem, on one hand we need increased awareness regarding infant and young child feeding. On the other hand, we require a food that is nutritious, safe, sustainable and can readily be consumed by children living in food insecure communities. One-third of the 160 million population of Bangladesh is food insecure.

As one of the means to overcome this problem, we have developed ready-to-use complementary food supplements using locally available food ingredients in Bangladesh. These foods do not require cooking or mixing with water, are local, and therefore sustainable. The government of Bangladesh as well as other governments in the region has expressed interest in such food made of local ingredients to prevent and treat moderate acute malnutrition, particularly among children who live in conditions of food insecurity.

We hereby submit our manuscript describing the development of the ready-to-use complementary foods using local ingredients as well as the results of the acceptability trial conducted in the community. The trial has been registered with Clinicaltrials.gov and the registration number of this trial is NCT01553877. We further declare that it comprises original unpublished material and is not under consideration for publication elsewhere, and that if accepted for publication in BMC Pediatrics, it will not be submitted for publication elsewhere without the agreement of the editors. We further declare that we had no conflict of interest in writing this paper. Moreover, all authors have gone through the final version and approved it for submission for publication.

Thank you
Sincerely yours

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