Reviewer's report

Title: Using formative research to develop the healthy eating component of the CHANGE! school-based curriculum intervention

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Reviewer: Patcharawan Srisilapanan

Reviewer's report:

This paper illustrated a qualitative finding of information from children, parents and teachers on healthy eating. Information was analyzed using the new pen profile method. The contents still need more clarification in some areas.

Major Revisions

Abstract
Methods… It will be better to give more detail for the acronym…….PRECEDE (Predisposing, Reinforcing, Enabling, Causes in Educational Diagnosis, and Evaluation) education model

Objective
The objective is too broad. The authors stated…..’ the aim of the present study was to gather qualitative data regarding healthy eating’…..please specify which qualitative data the authors aimed to gather.

Method
Procedures…… Who was/were the interviewers?
Second paragraph, when explaining how many children participated in the study why the authors chose to report only boys or males. For gender equality concern why not reported how many boys and girls, males and females.

Procedures
Paragraph 1, I feel that the description of the procedures will be better if the detail information on PRECEDE component is given. It will help the reader more understanding of the procedures as stated that it was based on the PRECEDE theory.

Will it be better if you could explain why you need to conduct both individual and group interview?

Results
In general, it is a little difficult to read the result. It will be better to describe the results by divided into section related to the PRECEDE model. For example, predisposing factors, barriers, reinforcing factors, enabling factors.
Influences to Healthy Eating

4th paragraph ......‘For children, school was a key influential factor’....what is the supporting evidence that the school was a key influential factor, and in what aspects? This part is too brief.

Barrier to healthy eating

First paragraph......‘The smell of good food....a chippy’ What does good food here mean?

Discussion

First line. The aim of the study stated here is more specific than when appeared in the introduction.

The information about PRECEDE here should also state in the methodology section.

4th line......the limited body of literature that has utilized this method of data analysis....which method was used? Please state more clearly.

Second paragraph

There are full length of discussion about ....‘overt control and covert control’...which did not include in the methodology earlier. If the authors would like to emphasis about these aspects, please state more clearly in the methodology.

5th paragraph...‘Pen profiles also revealed parental/carer support ’ Please check if the authors had mention about carer in the earlier part. If the study included carer and parent, please state it more clearly in the methodology.

8th paragraph...visual exposure may be a beneficial potential strategy for children with respect to fruit but not vegetables’ What is the evidence to exclude vegetables?

10th paragraph ......parents’ themes was based on money, time, and tiredness (Figure 6)’ I could find tiredness in Figure 6.

Conclusion

In general, conclusion is too long and not very concise. Some sentences did not add much information. Therefore, they should not be in the conclusion. For example, 4th sentence ....The important role parents play............ and also the last sentence.

Line 8 There was no evidence in the results as a well as in Figure 4 to illustrate the supporting role of parents in encouraging interaction with health education at school.

Minor revisions

References needed,
Background…Paragraph 1 The first introduction sentence
2. Data analysis. Second sentence…none of these approaches…..

Data Analysis
Figure 1 what is B7, B10, G1, G18 means? Please give note somewhere to state that B means boy, G means girl.

Discussion
4th paragraph miss spelling ‘focuss’

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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 interests.