Reviewer's report

Title: Relationship between leisure participation and leisure constraints of Taiwanese breastfeeding mothers

Version: 1 Date: 25 July 2012

Reviewer: Xin Yu

Reviewer's report:

- Major Compulsory Revisions

1. The statistical analysis:

- The authors should use t-test instead of paired t-test.
- The authors should use t-test instead of One-way Analysis of variance. For example, in Table 2, the authors only have two groups but used ANOVA. ANOVA is used for more than two groups.
- The authors did not check for the normality of their data. For example, if the data is normally distributed, they should use t-test and if it is not normally distributed, nonparametric t-test should be used.
- In table 1, the authors indicated the number of respondents who exclusively breastfed their babies were 401 but when I add up breastfeeding duration for (#4 and #6), I got 247 which is different from 401 – why is that different if EBF is only for the first six months.
- The authors should explain why they used Cluster analysis.

2. Content:

- There is a clear difference between exclusive breast feeding (EBF) and breast feeding (BF) and authors should make that clear in their article. My understanding is that EBF is only for the first six months while BF included 8 indicators and they are (EBF, predominant BF, early initiation of BF, bottle feeding, continues BF for one year, continues BF for two years, ever BF and age-appropriate BF) (see WHO guidelines for details, http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2008/9789241596664_eng.pdf).
- The whole paper need to be read and review by English language editor.

3. Research Aim:

- The authors indicate that their aim was to conduct a study that attempts to understand the factors affecting leisure participation and leisure constraints faced….. the authors did not adjust for any potential confounders (or covariates of factors) rather, their aim should be an attempts to understand the relationship or the correlates between ……

4. Methods:

- The authors indicated that their survey was conducted for mothers with
breastfeeding experience for #4 months. The authors should explain in details why these criteria of #4 months and breastfeeding experience were used.

- **Minor Essential Revisions**

- Fishers-exact test should be used in some variables (Ages and educational levels because one of the cell is less than 5) in table 5.

- Table 3 should be deleted because it is the same as Table 4.

- Table 4 should be titled: Mean differences of leisure Participation and leisure preference in various Leisure activities instead of differences of leisure Participation and leisure preference in various Leisure activities

- In the method section, the authors indicated that “a pilot study in paper format was conducted with 14 local women to ensure that the questions were easily and correctly understood by the respondents” – report the Cronbach’s alpha coefficients that demonstrate the internal consistency of each item.

- The authors reported the responses of 531 – how was this values got? Did the authors do any sample size calculations? If so, they should indicate that in the paper.

- The authors did not report some useful limitations in their study which were; recall bias and contaminations due to the use of bottle feeding in addition to breastfeeding.

- In table 1, this is misleading, change # 4 to 4 and change # 6 to 5-6 months, change # 12 months to 7-12 months and so on.

- **Discretionary Revisions**

- The second paragraph in this section (leisure preference and leisure participants) should go to the method section under data analysis.

- This section Classification of breastfeeding mothers should go to the method section.

- Result tables not well formatted.

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

No