Reviewer's report

Title: Relationship between participation in leisure activities and constraints on Taiwanese breastfeeding mothers during leisure activities

Version: 5 Date: 4 January 2013

Reviewer: Kingsley Agho

Reviewer's report:

Response:

I completely understood the calculation of Wu (2009) and I disagree with the authors that the sample of 415 is indeed sufficient. My reasons are: (1) The sample of 900-1000 meets the central limit theorem (CLT) assumptions and, (2) the data was not weighted to reflect the population of interest and based on that, the authors should report median with 25th and 75th percentiles in table 2 in order to determine the normality of the sample.

But, If the data was weighted, there is no need to report median with 25th and 75th percentiles.

Response:

I disagreed with the authors on this because previous studies from Taiwan indicated the following:

In Taiwan, most companies provide only eight weeks of maternity leave (Chen et al 2006) - by so doing, infant mothers may be forced to have a short span of exclusive breastfeeding (EBF) due to short maternity leave.

A national survey carried out in 2005 showed that the rate of exclusive breastfeeding in Taiwan at one month postpartum was only 22.3%, and dropped to 16.7% at three months (Chien et al 2005).

From the study of Chien et al 2005, it is very hard for any IYCF researchers to believe the EBF rate of 80%, an increased of about 5 fold (from around 16.7% to approximately 80% ) in Taiwan in the past 5 to 6 years.

The authors should also define EBF in their manuscript – it is the usual standard and that may explain things better to readers unfamiliar with how the the authors definition EBF rate.

References


Yi Chun Chen, Ya-Chi Wu and Wei-Chu Chie Effects of work-related factors on
the breastfeeding behavior of working mothers in a Taiwanese semiconductor manufacturer: a cross-sectional survey BMC Public Health 2006, 6:160

**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.