Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Feeding Practices, Dietary Intakes and Anthropometric Status of Lactating Women in Samre Woreda, South Eastern Zone of Tigray, Ethiopia

**Version:** 2  **Date:** 15 August 2012

**Reviewer:** Prof. Tefera Belachew

Reviewers report:

Comments

Title: Feeding Practices, Dietary Intakes and Anthropometric Status of Lactating Women in Samre Woreda, South Eastern Zone of Tigray, Ethiopia

A. Major Compulsory revisions

General

The study addressed a timely issue which has public health importance in Ethiopia after the initiation of the National Nutrition Strategy and National Nutrition Program which target lactating women among others. The findings fit into the information needs of planners and program implementers in Tigray region. However, the manuscript needs thorough English editing before being published as there are grammatical errors and has many fragmented short sentences which are not attractive for readers.

Specific comments

Suggested Title: “Feeding Practices, Dietary Intakes and Anthropometric Status of Lactating Women in Samre Woreda, South Eastern Zone of Tigray, Ethiopia”

This also title matches with the conclusion.

Abstract

Results: Authors stated: “status of the participants were size of farm land, length of marriage years, maize cultivation, frequency of ANC visit and length of breast feeding. Using logistic regression model, factors significantly associated with the nutritional. ” Which nutritional status are they referring to? Stunting? Chronic energy deficiency? Low MUAC? They need to be specific.

Methods and Materials

1. Under anthropometric measurements “…mothers being without shoes to the nearest 0.1 cm..” be changed by
2. “…mothers to the nearest 0.1 cm with their shoes taken off.”
3. Change “The body mass index (BMI)” by “Body mass index (BMI)”
4. Individual Diet Diversity Score was defined as “ the sum of food groups eaten
in a specified reference period, serves as a proxy of nutrient adequacy of an individual’s diet.”. This is general and authors should specify over what reference the dietary intake was measure.

5. Authors do not have give an operational definition of terms like women in the Reproductive Age as they have know definitions.

6. Authors use nutritional status and anthropometry status interchangeably. They better use Nutritional status consistently.

7. Authors need to specify the models. How did they select the candidate variables for entry into the multivariable model. This should be specified.

B. Minor Essential Revisions

Results

1. Get ride of the subheadings from the results.

2. There are linguistic editorials that need to be fixed.

3. Table 6. The classification of malnutrition be better termed as: BMI<18.5= Chronic Energy deficiency, BMI > 18.5 normal.

References

1. Should be formatted according to the journal’s styles.

2. Authors used grey literature, but they did not provide the URL and date accessed.

C. Discretionary revisions-none

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I do not have any competing interests