Reviewer’s report

Title: Maternal Vegetable Intake During and After Pregnancy

Version: 0 Date: 15 Feb 2019

Reviewer: Najmeh Maharlouei

Reviewer’s report:

Dear Authors,

Thank you for submitting your manuscript entitled "Maternal Vegetable Intake During and After Pregnancy" to "BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth". In this study you compared vegetable and fruit intake during pregnancy and post partum.

I personally like the classification in four groups; however, I did not get the logic why you compared the groups two by two in table 1 and 2. Please clarify the reason in the methods if there is any; otherwise, compare the variables among four groups instead of two by two.

Given that the classifications from "stable inadequate to stable adequate" could be considered as ordinal ranking of one measure (taking vegetable and fruits) why you did not use ordinal regression, in which you would reference either "stable adequate" or "stable inadequate" and compare other three groups to it.

Appendix Table 1 is very important and encompasses some of the most important messages of your study as it covers the main part of the first paragraph of the discussion. I think it should not be presented as the appendix. Even if the number of tables is limited based on the journal's policy, it seems wise if you integrate other tables, so that you can present it in the text of the manuscript.

Since my university has not subscribed for Reference 30 I could not evaluate it. It does not make sense that "... mothers believe they change their diets and eating habits after the birth of their child and that they turn towards unhealthier dietary habits.(30) The primary reason for changing their diet was feeling responsible for their baby's digestive discomfort via their breastmilk,...". The sentences in Italic format do not match.

Page 3; Line 69: Background: Given that during the the first 4-6 months of life, exclusive breast feeding is recommended, may be it is better to modify the sentence, as you have written "Vegetable intake during the first year of life is associated with the development of healthy eating habits later in life."

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes
Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I recommend additional statistical review

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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