Reviewer’s report

Title: Prevalence and associated factors influencing stunting in children aged 2-5 years in the Gaza Strip-Palestine: a cross-sectional study

Version: 0 Date: 29 Mar 2016

Reviewer: Daniel Hoffman

Reviewer’s report:

This paper is a very important topic. The research was well conducted, but the manuscript is not ready for publication.

Two major issues exist. First, the introduction and discussion are simply long paragraphs that do not adequately outline the need for this research, the missing gaps in literature that it will fill, and the main hypotheses. The discussion is wandering and doesn't focus on exploring why the results exist and how they fit with existing literature.

Second, the issue of consanguinity is confusing. What does it mean to be a "blood relative"? Were they siblings, cousins, cousins once or twice removed? The degree of consanguinity is of utmost importance in defining before such broad conclusions can be made.

Overall, the research is solid, but the writing needs major editing to get it to a point that it can be properly published.

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.

No

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 am able to assess the statistics

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

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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