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: 2 Date: 04 May 2017

Reviewer: Janis Randall Simpson

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

Thank you for the opportunity to review this manuscript.

While changes have been made in response to the previous review, there are still considerable editorial revisions required before publication.

Page 1, line 9: delete 'of' before children

Page 1, line 10: 2 to 5 should be 2-5 and should be consistent throughout

Page 1, line 13: face-to-face

Page 1, line 14: delete comma after information

Page 1, line 15: .... and maternal height was measured...

Page 1, line 18: change 'and' to 'with'

Page 1, line 19: delete 'was'

Page 2, line 4: add 'of' before alarming

Page 2, line 6: delete 'increasing rates of' before stunting. Change 'cultural proper' to 'culturally-appropriate'

Page 3, line 6: add comma after waster

Page 3, line 12: suggestion: linear growth potential; those children falling....

Page 3, line 16: change 'development' to 'growth'

Page 3, line 22: put 13.2% in brackets ? significant figures here - does it need to be 13.2% or just 13%?
Page 6, line 23: change 'translated' to 'expressed'

Page 6, line 23: Add 'The' before Chi

Page 7, lines 13-17 - wording needs to be made clearer

Page 7, line 18: the underlying causes of what???

Page 8, line 2: delete 'The' before 'informed'

Page 8, line 5: change 'clarified' to 'stated'

Page 8, line 6: change 'her' to 'his/her'

Page 8, line 9: change effectiveness to 'validity'

Page 8, line 16: change 'was' to 'lived'

Page 8, line 18: ???? this can't be correct??? how could the child's birth order be 3.99 month??

Page 8, line 21: move 'only' before breast

Page 8, line 22: change 'was' to 'were' and insert 'were' after 35.9%

Page 8, line 23: delete 'of them' also delete 'between

Page 9, line 1: change 'had' to 'shared'

Page 9, line 2: delete 'were' and delete 'of'

Page 9, line 3: delete 'of' and delete 'body'

Page 9, line 4: capitalize Table

Page 9, line 5: ; in El Remal urban area, stunting was 17%; and, in Al Qurara rural area, stunting was 10%

Page 9, line 8: change 'with' to 'of'

Page 9, line 16: delete 'among children'

Page 9, line 22-23: delete sentence starting "Stunting (redundant)

Page 9, line 23: replace 'prior' with 'a previous'

Page 10, line 1:... study that reported a prevalence of stunting of 15% - suggestion
Page 10, line 2:  add 'continuing' before deterioration

Page 10, line 3:  delete 'continues to grow worse'

Page 10, line 5:  not sure what 'raised' means?? - needs clarification

Page 10, line 8:  not sure what 'worst' means?? - needs clarification

Page 10, line 19:  suggestion - ...... nutritional status, genetic factors must also be considered.

Page 10, line 22:  change 'included' to 'determined to be'

Page 10, line 23:  add 'positively' before associated.  Delete 'the' after with

Page 11, line 1:  change 'stunted' to stunting in . Delete next sentence.

Page 11, line 4:  add 'and' after diseases

Page 11, line 5:  delete 'the trends'. Add "A' before previous

Page 11, line 6:  delete 'was'

Page 11, line 11:  change 'stunting proportion' to the prevalence of stunting

Page 11, lines 12 - 23:  wording is not very clear and should be clarified

Page 12, line 1:  delete 'the'

Page 12, lines 4-9:  wording needs clarification and structure

**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 am able to assess the statistics

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

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