Reviewer's report

Title: Vitamin D levels in schoolchildren: A cross-sectional study in Kuwait

Version: 1 Date: 21 Jun 2017

Reviewer: Ramzi Shawahna

Reviewer's report:

Please include all comments for the authors in this box rather than uploading your report as an attachment. Please only upload as attachments annotated versions of manuscripts, graphs, supporting materials or other aspects of your report which cannot be included in a text format.

The manuscript "Vitamin D levels in schoolchildren in Kuwait" by K. Alyahya provides insight into levels of vitamin D in an important population that is schoolchildren. Monitoring certain micro-nutrients in populations at risk of deficiency is a particularly important public health issue. Although the manuscript is interesting, I have the following comments.

1. The number of participants need to be included in the results sections of both the abstract as well as the main manuscript.

2. How did you ensure consistency between the three trained dietitians who administered the questionnaire? Please provide more details.

3. Please provide more details like the manufacturer, model, number, ..etc of the instruments and kits used for quantification of vitamin D, PTH and calcium.

4. Please add the sample size used in this study as a limitation.

5. The study design "cross-sections" is a limitation itself.
Some minor comments:

1. Acronyms like (GCC, adj Ca, ...etc) need to be defined once they appear in the text, even in the abstract.

2. In some places sentences and phrases need to be revised for clarify, grammar and some need to be divided into two sentences. Examples Page 3 Lines 59-58 and Page 3 Lines 56.

3. Page 3 Lines 60-66, the whole paragraph needs revision for grammar and clarity.

4. Page 4 Line 77, please revised the grammar.

5. Page 4 Line 86, please revised the grammar.

6. Page 5 Line 105 please revised "dieticians".

**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:

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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