Reviewer’s report

Title: Physical growth: is it a good indicator of development in early childhood in low- and middle-income countries?

Version: 0 Date: 21 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Mariana Batista

Reviewer’s report:

Initially I would like to congratulate the authors for the initiative of researching this topic considered of great importance in the present time. I am also grateful for the opportunity to revise this article which, in my view, is of high scientific importance.

Here is a check list of my consideration in each of the paper sessions.

Abstract. Suitable.

Introduction. The introduction is very well written and substantiated by quotations. Can delineate the problem and evidence the need to carry out the study.

Methods

Study design. Well described.

Sample. Well described.

Data sources. Well described and detailed.

Analysis. Well described and adequate to the objectives of the study.

Results. They were presented in an adequate and satisfactory manner, considering texts, tables and figures.

Discussion. Adequate, since it approached and discussed the main aspects related to the results of the present study, comparing it with others already accomplished.

Conclusion. Very objective and enlightening.

References. Relevant and updated.

Tables and figures. They have all the information they need to be appropriate and self-explanatory.

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:

Acceptable

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