Reviewer’s report

Title: Determinants of Undernutrition among Children Under-Five Years Old in Southern Ethiopia: Does Pregnancy Intention Matter? A Community-Based Unmatched Case-Control Study

Version: 0 Date: 09 Nov 2019

Reviewer: SYLVIA KIRCHENGAST

Reviewer's report:

This is a very interesting manuscript, however in my opinion major revision is needed before it is suitable for publication.

The introduction is well written, unfortunately no hypothesis is presented.

The main problem of the manuscript is the material and method section:

There is no information how the survey to identify the number of children under the age of five years and their nutritional status was carried out.

Who contacted the parents? What have the inclusion and exclusion criterions.

What about ethnical background of the participants?

Who filled out the questionaires?

Who filled out the questionnaire in case of illiterate mothers?

Why is no information regarding amteral age in this section?

How was stuntedness defined?

Why are nearly 70% of the children males?

Why is there no information regarding body height or body length and body weight of the children?

Why is there no information regarding somatic parameters of the mothers (body height, BMI, )?

Why are age variables of children and mothers only presented as categories. It would be much better to have the age in months of years and present means, standarddeviations and ranges.

Why is there no information reagsing the number of siblings and the position of the child?

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

No

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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