Reviewer’s report

Title: Double burden of malnutrition among ever-married women in Bangladesh: A pooled analysis

Version: 0 Date: 29 May 2018

Reviewer: Hanna Augustin

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript by Tania Sultana Tanwi et al, entitled Double burden of malnutrition among ever-married women in Bangladesh: A pooled analysis, encompasses in total 57605 ever-married women in Bangladesh. The authors investigate the change in prevalence of under- and over nutrition, and evaluate in factors related to these conditions. The manuscript is well written, although some corrections are suggested below.

Abstract

Make clear in ethics that the sample include ever-married women of age 15-49 years.

Be consequent with what tempus to use. There is now a mixture of perfect and imperfect.

Please consider to reduce the number of decimals for percentages. Be careful to suggest interventions, since that is out of the scoupe of this manuscript.

Introduction

Page 4:

Line 11. To me epidemiological transition is new. Please clarify what you mean and include reference. Maybe also obesity should be mentioned along with overweight.

Line 18. The shortening DBM is scarcely used throughout the text. Consider not to include this shortening.

Line 28. Start sentence with On the one hand, overweight and obesity...

Line 30. No need to list different types of cardiovascular diseases, enough with saying cardiovascular disease.

Line 35-42. Your definition of CDs makes me uncertain. Low birth weight is not a CD. Please, rephrase these lines so that you distinguish between CDs and other states.
Overall, it is preferred that the authors further clarify the added value of including several of the latest DHS.

Methods, page 6

Lines 8-13. Please include reference on the health surveys eg the webpage that is now mentioned separately at the end. Or are there any previous publications from these surveys?

Line 18. Omit the word successful here. This can be addressed in the discussion instead where the strengths of this study should be included.

Line 20. Include information on the Women's questionnaire.

Line 39. Include information what standardized procedure encompass.

Lines 41-44. Clarify what you did with missing data and with outliers.

Also include, some information on how many were invited, and how many did participate. Also how many were excluded, or clarify that such data is missing (if that is the case).

Variables, page 7

Include reference for who BMI categories.

Include information on wealth index.

Statistical analysis, page 7

Include company delivering the STATA program.

The authors must clarify that the normal weight category is compared with the categories for overweight/obesity and underweight, respectively.

Include information on reference category for each independent variable in this section.

Include significance level (α).

Multinominal logistic regression is used with BMI categories as dependent variables. Make clear how these categories are used, what was your reference and were overweight and obesity aggregated? Did you take confounders and effect modifiers into account? I think his would help
to understand how all these factors together is modelling the odds of having underweight or
overweight/obesity.

Multinomial logistic regression delivers odds ratio and not relative risk ratio. Please, correct this
and make sure you report the right thing throughout the manuscript.

Results

Use the tempus perfect consequently. Sometimes presence is used now.

Avoid the big overlap between text and table 1 and 2. All values are not needed to show again in
the text. Please also consider fewer decimals for all percentages.

Page 8, Lines 44-54. Here for example the percentages only for the highest and the lowest
categories can be shown.

Table 1. Consider not to include so many decimals.

Table 2. Maybe call urban/rural for Place of recidence instead of type of place...

Table 2. Include the type statistical analysis that was used.

Discussion

Please include discussion on strengths and weaknesses of your study.

You mentioned that the surveys were successful, how have you come to that conclusion. Let the
reader understand this by giving information to evaluate the external and internal validity.

Page 15, Line 48. The authors mentioned "the work index". What is that? Should that be
introduced in the methods?

Conclusion

Make sure the conclusion is based on your results. You cannot make conclusion on what policies
to implement. To say that tax on energy-dense foods should be implemented is to jump to
conclusions. I suggest the authors take a more modest approach here based on their results and
make clear what are you own thoughts of the future.
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 recommend additional statistical review

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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