Reviewer’s report

Title: Transition from F-75 to ready-to-use therapeutic food in children with severe acute malnutrition, an observational study in Uganda

Version: 0 Date: 17 Jul 2017

Reviewer: Franck Wieringa

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript by Lanyero and colleagues describes the testing of the introduction of a RUTF in the transition phase between stabilisation and rehabilitation of children with SAM. Almost no data exist on this topic, whereas it is an important issue for hospitals dealing with complicated cases of SAM. The paper is well written, and easy to follow.

I have only some minor issues with the paper as it currently stands.

Abstract

Page 2

Line 8. Delete 'the'.

Line 57. With 35% failure, I am not sure whether one can speak of successful. Perhaps change to 'was possible in the majority of cases'

Page 3

Line 0. Please delete 'the' before younger

Background.

Lines 21 - 32. Please add that only SAM children with complications require hospitalization, and that in SAM without complications, RUTF can be started straight away, without need for a transitional phase. This is now only mentioned on the next page.

Page 4

Lines 45 - 47 : "We also … to RUTF". Unclear sentence. Please rephrase
Page 6

Line 26 'with the child'

Line 34. Perhaps change to: 'considered ready for the transition phase'

Line 37: In the transition….

Page 10.

Line 43-45. Please change "Of the 341 children… at all" to 'The remaining 17 children did not accept RUTF at all". Not sure why the 341 children are used as numerator here, while they are not used as numerator for the 101 children.

Page 13. Lines 18 - 23 Studies in an …complementary food. Unclear… I assume children with SAM had a higher probability. Please rephrase

Page 14

Line 12. Please change 100% to 'full' for clarity

Line 22 ' differences'

Line 27 delete 'the'

Page 15

Lines 54 - 57. Unclear sentence. Please rephrase

Page 16

Line 6. Please change to 'was successful in the majority of children with SAM'

Level of interest
Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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