Author’s response to reviews

Title: INFANTS WITH MICROCEPHALY DUE TO ZIKA VIRUS EXPOSURE: NUTRITIONAL STATUS AND FOOD PRACTICES

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Dear reviewers,

Thanks for the comments and the time spent reviewing our manuscript. We were very happy to know about the possible publication in the Nutrition Journal and thank them for the contributions, they were valid for improving the manuscript.

We've made changes to the text to fit all your requests. We then copied your comments and inserted the responses after them.

Reviewer #1: Syntax and grammar errors were noted; however, the focus of my review was for the scientific content. The authors set out to write a descriptive study which is used to describe characteristics of a population. Although there was no sample size calculation for this study and the number is small, it is an initial characterization of this population. Moreover, in MESH searching Zika virus and nutritional status, it yields no results in PubMed and therefore, this is a novel study. The authors appropriately acknowledge the limitation of a 24-hour food recall questionnaire and the issues with using this to generalize nutritional practices. That being said this is a commonly used tool in the literature. Given small sample size, it is appropriate to use
Fisher exact testing. The authors explained the rational for the tools used. On occasion, sentences imply an observation or correlation which one cannot determine in this type of study.

Answer: We adjusted the entire text of the manuscript and contracted the American Editing Experts’ Premium Editing service to review the syntax and grammar errors and to make the text clearer. Regarding sentences involving observation or correlation related to Fisher's exact test, we exclude all of them.

If necessary, I am available for any further changes and clarifications on the manuscript.

Best regards,

Samira dos Santos.