Author’s response to reviews

Title: Development and validation of a food frequency questionnaire (FFQ) for assessing dietary macronutrients and calcium intake in Cambodian school-aged children

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Version 2: Date: February 14, 2019
Dear Professor Camille Lassale:

Thank you for considering our manuscript entitled “Development and validation of a food frequency questionnaire (FFQ) for assessing dietary macronutrients and calcium intake in Cambodian school-aged children” (NUTJ-D-18-00236R2) for publication in Nutrition Journal.

We are delighted to learn that the reviewer found our manuscript interesting and of value. In response to the reviewer’s helpful comments, we are pleased to submit a second revised version of the manuscript as well as our point-by-point responses to the reviewer’s comments.

Our manuscript has been checked by a professional English editing service.

We sincerely hope that we have adequately addressed the concerns of the reviewer and look forward to a favorable decision regarding our revised manuscript.

With kind regards,

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Reviewer comments:

The following addition requires editing for clarity. Avoid 'would be owing to', which suggests a higher certainty than is possible given the study. Also, check other parts of the paragraph - e.g., greater versus more amount.

1. 268: The sex difference would be owing to the portion size [28]. Other factors considered would be that the under68 reporting of diet among adolescent girls was associated with unstructured eating, concerns with self-image [33], and living in a city [34]. In addition, the correlation in children aged 7-9 years was higher than in those aged 10-17 years. This finding was different from the result of the reproducibility. We assumed that the portion size of FFQ might not be suitable for older children in Phnom Penh city. Furthermore, the more amount of foods and more opportunities to eat various foods among older children could have led to the discrepancy between FFQ and 24Hs.

Response

Thank you for this comment. We have accordingly modified the unclear sentences in the revised manuscript (Line 266-268 and 273-275).

“The sex difference was possibly caused by gaps between the actual amount consumed and the portion size shown in the FFQ [32], which would be larger in girls than boys.”

Furthermore, a larger discrepancy between the FFQ and 24Hs would be observed in cases where there were more opportunities to eat various types of foods among older children.”

Editor’s comments

Please note the editorial comment below regarding corrections to language in newly inserted text. Please also check the titles of all tables and edit as necessary. Include sample sizes consistently in tables or titles to tables. The title of table 2 appears to be cut off.
Response

Thank you for your suggestions. We have re-checked all the tables and have included sample sizes in tables or their titles. In addition, we have modified the title of Table 2.