Reviewer’s report

Title: Mediating Role of Arsenic in the Relationship between Diet and Pregnancy Outcomes: Prospective Birth Cohort in Bangladesh

Version: 0 Date: 23 Oct 2018

Reviewer: Kazuhito Yokoyama

Reviewer's report:

1. The manuscript seems lengthy; it should be more concise.
2. The authors should prove that their model (mediation model) is better than an ordinary analysis such as the multiple regression analysis. Also, can the energy, protein, fat, carbohydrate and/or fiber in diet explain the source of arsenic exposure in subjects? The unit of variables (per SD increment) is perplexed to grasp the effect size.
3. The GA and GWG were significantly affected by arsenic exposure. The authors should stress this positive observation rather than the negative result on BW, which might have been due to less reliability of BW measurements in newborns.
4. The toenail arsenic is more reliable than other exposure indices such as blood levels? Evidence should be given.

Level of interest

Please indicate how interesting you found the manuscript:

An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English

Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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