Reviewer's report

Title: Iron-fortified lentils to improve iron (Fe) status among adolescent girls in Bangladesh-study protocol for a double-blind community-based randomized control trial

Version: 0 Date: 14 Nov 2018

Reviewer: Anamika Misra

Reviewer's report:

An interesting study protocol aiming to study the efficacy of iron fortified food supplementation in improving the iron status and cognitive performance amongst adolescent girls. The protocol is brilliantly designed and written. It methodically describes all aspects, nonetheless, following guidelines and adding the checklist is a Trials requirement. My observations to the manuscript are as below;

- Please explain how the study will ensure all aspects of data quality- reliability, correctness, completeness, timeliness, precision and integrity

- Due the small sample that too chosen from a specific set of population (BRAC adolescent club member) sample is non representative to rural massed , hence generalization of study results might be a challenge,

- minor edits are required to remove the repetitiveness in the manuscript - inclusion and exclusion criteria, methodology, study setting etc.

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:

Acceptable
Quality of figures

All images and figures within the manuscript should be genuine i.e. without evidence of manipulation. No specific feature within an image may be enhanced, obscured, moved, removed, or introduced. If you have concerns about the veracity of the figures you should choose the first option below.

Statistical review

Is it essential that this manuscript is seen by an expert statistician? If so, please give your reasons in your report.

Declaration of competing interests

Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests'

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments
which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal

Were you mentored through this peer review?

No