Reviewer’s report

Title: Availability of Adequately Iodized Salt in Northwest Ethiopia: a Cross-sectional Study

Version: 0 Date: 06 Mar 2017

Reviewer: Caroline Trumpff

Reviewer's report:

Review AOPH-D-16-00152

This manuscript describes a study which has investigated the household utilization of iodized salt in the northwestern region of Ethiopia. The main findings are that only one third of the household studied are using iodized salt. The style should be revised by a native English speaker.

Abstract

P2L13 : could you be more specific about the "associated factors".

P2L32 "In the final model, variables with a P-value of <0.05 were considered statistically significant." You don't have to explain that in the abstract.

P2L49 "Place of residence » : area or residence (urban/rural)?

Introduction

P3L20 "it is incriminated as the causes", this should be reformulated.

P4L33 Please be more specific about the "associated factors"

Method

Could you cite a reference for the method of determination of the salt iodine content?

Results

P7L23 "and giving the response rate of 98.7%. " Please reformulate.
P7L55 "To see the effect of the selected" Please reformulate, to assess for example.

Please pay attention to the difference between the word availability and use…

Discussion

This part of the manuscript should be edited for English style and content. You may want to discuss how to ensure iodine sufficiency (such as the introduction of mandatory salt iodization) in that region rather than compare with other countries… Is there any study about the iodine status of the population of Ethiopia? Also, please try to cite first hand citation.

P8L22 "Assessing the availability of adequately iodized salt in the community indicates the ongoing activities to eliminate IDD of the given area (27, 28)." Please reformulate, such as Assessing the availability of adequately iodized salt is essential to avoid IDD.

The current report is in line with the findings from Tigray (33%), and Amhara (33%) regions of Ethiopia, and India (32.9%) (13, 26, 29). It is not clear why you would mention India in this sentence… Why would you compare Ethiopia and India?

P8L33 "But the finding is higher than the study conducted in Ethiopia (30, 31) and Kenya (32)." Please reformulate and explain what are their findings.

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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

Declaration of competing interests

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

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