Reviewer’s report

Title: On exploring and ranking risk factors of child malnutrition in Bangladesh using multiple classification analysis

Version: 2 Date: 07 Jun 2017

Reviewer: Dianjianyi Sun

Reviewer’s report:

In the revised manuscript, the authors added additional contents regarding this topic. However, the current updated version was still with a focus on the multiple classification analysis (MCA), compared with linear and logistic regression analyses. Please double check the explanation for the abbreviations when they first occurred.

Abstract

Structured abstract is needed with separate paragraphs, not as a whole paragraph.

Background in the abstract is too long, its need to be shortened into one or two sentences.

Background and Discussion

1. The "Background" section still need to be simplified into its 30~50%. The deleted part could be reorganized into your discussion part.

Methods

1. You may delete "Linear Regression Analysis".

2. The "Study Materials" should be put at first.

Results

1. The author need to add a table describing the characteristics of study population.

2. The 1st paragraph of "Goodness of the Fitted Models" should be placed in the end.

3. In table 1, if the unadjusted mean predicted HAZ (UPM) from IS-MCA was reported, why an unadjusted estimated regression coefficient of LM was not reported?
4. I suggest delete unadjusted mean predicted HAZ (UPM) from IS-MCA in both Table 1 and Table 2.

5. Again, statistical models (LM, BLogM, IS-MCA and NS-MCA models) are only the tools for your study. Showing the consistent findings confirmed by all the models is enough, no need to repeatedly reported the same finding from different models.

6. Please delete "These predictive powers are low as expected found in the relevant nutrition studies [14,35,40], and the other goodness-of-fit tests confirm the appropriateness of the fitted models."

7. Where is the note and border line for Table 3?

8. Keep consistency with how many digits to the left of the decimal.

Discussion

1. Way too much contents are relate to MCA in 1st paragraph. In addition, the 1st paragraph should be a brief summary of your major findings.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:
Needs some language corrections before being published

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