Reviewer’s report

Title: Public awareness and perception of Ghana's restrictive policy on fatty meat, as well as preference and consumption of meat products among Ghanaian adults living in the Kumasi Metropolis

Version: 0 Date: 17 Jul 2017

Reviewer: Uriyoan Colon-Ramos

Reviewer’s report:

Dear authors,

This is an interesting paper but requires reframing of the article and tightening of the discussion. For example, this is not a policy evaluation - there is no control group or baseline.

Also, it is unclear why diet and body composition are being assessed vis a vis the evaluation of acceptability/attitudes. A program impact pathway or another conceptual framework to clarify the thought process here would be useful.

In terms of introduction, it is critical to expand description of the policy - was it intended to impact health? If so, which outcomes specifically? How is it monitored and implemented? Authors seem to imply that it only affects imported meats, and the analyses use this stratification - but the rationale is unclear. The aspects of non-discriminatory and innovation of this policy should be described. The contribution of fatty meats to Ghanaian diet should also be described here.

Methods: unclear how the instruments were validated and how response options were chosen. Unclear, when they were piloted, what was assessed in the pilot? Also the power calculation was based on which health outcome? The FFQ, was a validated instrument for this population?

The results and discussion could be greatly improved by a conceptual framework or program impact pathway of how this policy is expected to have any impact on the results presented. Also, given the lack of control group or baseline, the findings on body composition and diet seem irrelevant here and need stronger justification for their inclusion.

Note: in the abstract, it is the perception of access, affordability, and availability of meats, rather than the actual access, availability, etc.

Overall proof-reading also recommended - some verbs and words missing; acronyms not spelled out when first mentioned, etc.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.
No

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

No

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
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Unable to assess

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