Author’s response to reviews

Title: Determinants of Severe Acute Malnutrition Among Under Five Children In rural Enebsie Sarmidr District, East Gojjam Zone, North West Ethiopia, 2016

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What is the design of the study? The study design is unmatched case control study design. This design is used because the study objective is to study risk factors of severe acute malnutrition.

What is the analysis used? We used logistic regression and odds ratio for analysis. The odds ratio is used the risk analysis.

What was the sample size? The sample size was calculated using Epi info 7 statcalc. The assumptions used for calculation was detecting a 3.5 times higher risk of suboptimal infant breast feeding practices among the cases and a 65.9 prevalence of suboptimal infant breast feeding practice among the controls based on the study done previously; 95% CI, 90% power and case to control ratio of 1:4. This made the minimum calculated sample size 58 for cases and 231 for controls. By taking 10% non-response rate the total sample size required was 318 having 64 cases and 254 controls.

How was maternal decision making and household economic status assessed? decision making ability was assessed by asking the mother/caregivers perceived ability of decision making within a family. And household economic status was assessed by asking the monthly family income in average in Ethiopian Birr.

What is suboptimal exclusive breast feeding? It is breast feeding less than eight times per day

What are fever and diarrhea?

Diarrhea: Unusual frequent and loose watery stool ≥ 3 times per day for two weeks or more

Fever: Mother/care giver thought as the child experienced unusual increase in temperature for two weeks or more