Reviewer’s report

Title: Socioeconomic determinants of malnutrition among mothers in the Amoron'i Mania region of Madagascar: a cross-sectional study

Version: 1 Date: 08 Nov 2017

Reviewer: Seth Adu-Afarwuah

Reviewer's report:

The authors have addressed my previous comments except the comment #4 (Re: Please provide footnotes for the tables stating the statistical methods used in each case). This comment is particularly important for Tables 3 and 4, so that any reader can more easily understand the tables even without reading the paper.

a. In Table 3: I don't see a consistency in the use of the superscript letter a (eg. on p =0.087 and p = 0.022 but not on p = 0.029), and I'm not sure readers will understand what the "linear trend" in the footnote means. Also, it is not clear to me why in the same sample, 2nd cycle education was the reference category for educational level when the dependent variable was BMI < 18.5, but authors indicate NA when the depended variable was MUAC < 220 mm.

b. In Table 4: Several variables were significantly associated with the dependent variables (BMI < 18.5 and MUAC < 220 mm) at 0.1 or even 0.05 level of significance in the bivariate analyses shown in Table 3 (i.e. age, farming equipment score and rice availability for BMI <18.5; movable property score, breastfeeding, and educational level for MUAC < 220 mm). Why were these variables not included in the final model? The footnote should include the level of significance (in the bivariate analyses?) at which the variables (eg age, dietary diversity score) not included in the models were not significant.

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.

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