Reviewer’s report

Title: NUTRITIONAL VALUE OF SCHOOL MEALS AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO ENERGY AND NUTRIENT INTAKES OF RURAL SCHOOL CHILDREN IN ENUGU AND ANAMBRA STATES, NIGERIA

Version: 0 Date: 19 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Russell de Souza

Reviewer's report:

This is an interesting study documenting the nutritional composition of meals in 3 "poor" schools in Nigeria. The manuscript is straightforward, and I have a few suggestions that mainly relate to improving the clarity of the description and presentation of the results.

1. The introduction seemed to be a little long. Perhaps it was just from the listing of the different rates of stunting, wasting, and underweight. Could this be tightened a little bit—then expanded if necessary in the discussion?

2. To be more precise (page 5, lines 122-123) do you mean that 20g of a food composite was collected for 5 consecutive days? or 20 g of each food dish prepared for the meal for 5 consecutive days?

3. Lines 138-139: do you mean cooked food (i.e. weights were of cooked, not raw foods)?

4. Please use boys and girls instead of males and females (lines 162-164)

5. Discussion: please start the discussion with a short paragraph summarizing the findings in general, then you can move into the specifics of pulse consumption.

6. Please list the strengths and limitations of your work.

7. Table 4: is it possible to present the mean +/- SD for the mean daily intake and % contribution?

8. Would it make sense to combine the estimates across all 3 schools for Tables 3 and 4? Or is it of primary interest to show the difference between schools?

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.

Unable to assess

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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