Reviewer’s report

Title: Infant and young child nutritional status and their caregivers' feeding knowledge and hygiene practices in internally displaced person camps, Somalia

Version: 0 Date: 28 Jun 2019

Reviewer: Hasina Rakotomanana

Reviewer's report:

I would like to take the time to thank the Editor-in-Chief and the authors for the opportunity to review this manuscript.

General comments

The study was carried out in Somalia and these results provide much needed information in a region with frequent humanitarian crises. Thus, such data can be helpful in documenting and prioritizing actions to deal with the rising child malnutrition rates in Somalia.

There are major grammatical mistakes in the manuscript. For example, check the sentence on lines 127-128 and lines 81-83. The flow is hard to follow sometimes. I would recommend the authors to work with a native English speaker or a professional editor to fix such problems. There are also few technical terms that were used wrongly making it hard to understand what was done. For example, check the sentences in lines 135-136.

This manuscript should provide highly needed data but it needs to be strengthened and extensively edited to meet standards of peer-reviewed journal articles.

Title

Please consider shortening the title. Removing the second part would make it short. Also, "knowledge, attitudes, and practices" are commonly used terms in Global Nutrition so consider rewording the title accordingly.

Abstract

In the results, consider removing the numbering. Also, the presented results should be clear and concise. When the authors talk about "severe or critical malnutrition", what indicators were assessed? How many children (what proportion) were suffering from malnutrition?

Background

This section has several good information but it needs to be edited to emphasize more on the need and the rationale of the study. More nutrition information and data, preferably from peer-reviewed journal
articles need to be included in this section. The gaps of research that this study will address is not clearly stated. What is known now about IDP in Somalia and what new knowledge/evidence this study will bring? Results from this study will be used for what purposes? Including those in this section will strengthen the rationale of the study.

Lines 70-71, this statement is important but the reference is not appropriate.

Line 72 needs reference.

Materials and methods

Needs detailed information about how data were collected.

How were the participants chosen? Any sampling technique used? Why 1655?
Why were 2 children included in the study?
Lines 135-143, this needs editing, not clear.
How was consent obtained?

Results and discussions

Table 4. These look like beliefs rather than practices.
How was household hunger assessed? Did the data collectors ask if the household experienced hunger? Over what time period?

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.
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:

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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