Reviewer’s report

Title: Intrahousehold management and use of nutritional supplements during the hunger gap in Maradi region, Niger: a qualitative study

Version: 1 Date: 05 Feb 2019

Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer's report:

PEER REVIEWER ASSESSMENTS:

OBJECTIVE - Full research articles: is there a clear objective that addresses a testable research question(s) (brief or other article types: is there a clear objective)?
No - there are minor issues

DESIGN - Is the current approach (including controls and analysis protocols) appropriate for the objective?
No - there are minor issues

EXECUTION - Are the experiments and analyses performed with technical rigor to allow confidence in the results?
No - there are major issues

INTERPRETATION - Is the current interpretation/discussion of the results reasonable and not overstated?
No - there are major issues

OVERALL MANUSCRIPT POTENTIAL - Could an appropriately REVISED version of this work represent a technically sound contribution?
Maybe - with major revisions

PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS:

GENERAL COMMENTS: it is a very interesting approach for an evaluation of intra household distribution of food supplements in villages in Niger. But I do observe some mixed methodologies that are not favorable for the paper- quantitative and qualitative data are presented and the use of wording for quantizing data instead of the appropriate method for qualitative data (majority)... There are no descriptions on how was the distribution of the groups, and it seems by the descriptive pages that supplements were randomly distributed. Examples of phrases and talks of one or two women do not represent the discourse for ideas. With the number of interviews you do have a qualitative approach by itself would be appreciated.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:
it will be determinant to present the qualitative methodology and the correction of the data presented. Discussion is very interesting but some speeches do not represent ideas and they were picked without reasoning.
ADDITIONAL REQUESTS/SUGGESTIONS:
the main issue is the mixing of methods, without a possible understanding of all data presented.

Note: This reviewer report can be downloaded - see attached pdf file.

**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?**
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

No

**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.

Not relevant to this manuscript

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests**
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

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3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

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5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?
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