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OPEN PEER REVIEW

Association of Household Food Insecurity with Stunting and Underweight Among Iranian Children Aged 2 - 5 Years old

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About this report

This open peer review (OPR) report shows the public comments made on this article during peer review, by the reviewers, the associate editor and the editor-in-chief, for every revision round, together with the authors' replies. Comments appear only with the consent of the people who wrote them. Reviewers who chose to sign their report are named; the others are shown as "Referee". Comments are edited for language only, and confidential remarks to the editors are not included.

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1 Original submission

0 comments

No public comments in this round.

2

Revision 1

AUTHORS' RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS

Authors' reply to reviewers

The next pages contain the authors' point-by-point reply to the comments of this revision round, as submitted with the revised manuscript. It is published as the authors wrote it.

Manuscript Title: **Association of household food insecurity with stunting and underweight among Iranian children aged 2-5 years old**

Manuscript ID: **145493**

Response-to-review table

****All revised sections are highlighted in the manuscript.**

Associate Editor's Comments	
Please describe novelty of study.	Thanks for your helpful and excellent suggestions. We referred to inconsistent findings of previous studies and explained the novelty of the present study. (In a study, the prevalence of food insecurity among 300 subjects in Tabriz was 36.3% and its significant determinants were employment status, education, income, and family size (17). In another study by Alipour et al., the prevalence of food insecurity was 36% and was associated with body mass index, male gender, and income (6). In a study among households with schoolchildren in southeastern Iran, the prevalence of food insecurity was 42.3% and associated with household size, number of children per household, mother's and father's education level, father's occupation status, and household income(18).) (Page 3, lines 52-59)
What about ,determination of sample size ? please consult with statistical coworker.	Based on the previous reports (19) considering 95% power and an α of 5%, a sample of 300 Iranian children aged 2-5 years old were selected from children aged 2-5 years old referring to healthcare centers. (page 4, lines 71-73)
Reviewer 1	
Comments to the Author	**Authors, s Responses to the Reviewer**
Reviewer 1: Thanks for review invitation. The current study is an interesting and functional topic and has run in a good format. The one important point is :	Thanks for your helpful and excellent suggestions.
Does the questionnaire which was used in this study translated and validated? Please send the original file and the validation process.	Household food security status was assessed using the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) 18-item food security questionnaire(20), a standard tool previously

	translated to a Persian version validated in Iran. (Najibi N, Dorosty Motlagh AR, Sadrzadeh Yeganeh H, Eshraghian MR, Daneshi M, Azizi S. Food insecurity status and some associated socioeconomic factors among newly diagnosed patients with type 2 diabetes in Shiraz, 2012. Journal of Arak University of Medical Sciences. 2013;16(1):98-106. Abbasi N, Ghoochani O, Ghanian M, Kitterlin M. Assessment of Households' Food Insecurity through use of a USDA Questionnaire. Adv Plants Agric Res. 2016;4(5):1-8.) (page 4, line 87) The validation process is available at the following link: https://medcraveonline.com/APAR/APAR-04-00155.pdf -The original file is sent as a supplementary file.
Reviewer 2	
Comments to the Author	**Authors, s Responses to the Reviewer**
Reviewer 2: Dear Authors Thank you for presenting the manuscript. There are a lot of existing work from Iran and other developing countries related to the associate between growth parameters and household Food Security. So, its seem the manuscript need a novelty for publish in the journal.	Thanks for your helpful and excellent suggestions. We referred to inconsistent findings of previous studies and explained the novelty of the present study. (In a study, the prevalence of food insecurity among 300 subjects in Tabriz was 36.3% and its significant determinants were employment status, education, income, and family size (17). In another study by Alipour et al., the prevalence of food insecurity was 36% and was associated with body mass index, male gender, and income (6). In a study among households with schoolchildren in southeastern Iran, the prevalence of food insecurity was 42.3% and associated with household size, number of children per household, mother's and father's education level, father's occupation status, and household income(18).) (Page 3, lines 52-59)
Reviewer 3	
Comments to the Author	**Authors, s Responses to the Reviewer**
In the introduction, it is mentioned that studies with this title have been conducted with conflicting results. Please refer to these studies and explain the novelty of the present	Thanks for your helpful and excellent suggestions. We referred to inconsistent findings of previous studies and explained the novelty of

study.	the present study. (In a study, the prevalence of food insecurity among 300 subjects in Tabriz was 36.3% and its significant determinants were employment status, education, income, and family size (17). In another study by Alipour et al., the prevalence of food insecurity was 36% and was associated with body mass index, male gender, and income (6). In a study among households with schoolchildren in southeastern Iran, the prevalence of food insecurity was 42.3% and associated with household size, number of children per household, mother's and father's education level, father's occupation status, and household income(18).) (Page 3, lines 52-59)
In the abstract, please do not limit yourself to p value and describe the regression results in full. Refer to similar studies in the discussion.	p-values were included in the abstract.
The effect of household food insecurity on height can be longer than its effect on weight, please mention this. What do you think is the reason for these results? Please expand the discussion.	Your valuable suggestion was implemented. (page 10, lines 213-218)
On what basis is the sample size determined? Please explain.	Based on the previous reports (19) considering 95% power and an α of 5%, a sample of 300 Iranian children aged 2-5 years old were selected from children aged 2-5 years old referring to healthcare centers. (page 4, lines 71-73)

2 Revision 1

1 comment · 7 May 2024

Associate Editor

ACCEPT 7 May 2024

The article is accepted, but it needs English editing.