

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: JNHM-071

Title: Neonates Measurements and Maternal Factors in Sudan

Recommendation:
 Accept as it is
 ✓ Accept after minor revision.....
 Accept after major revision
 Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		✓		
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity		✓		
Significance	✓			

Reviewer Name: Dr S. K. Nath

Detailed Reviewer's Report

Strengths of the Study

- **Originality and Relevance:** The study addresses an important public health concern by exploring the relationship between maternal health factors and neonatal anthropometric measurements in Sudan, a country with limited available data in this context.
- **Methodology:** Utilizes a cross-sectional, hospital-based design with a sizable sample (794 mother-newborn pairs), and employs standard anthropometric measurement techniques and appropriate statistical analyses (chi-square tests, SPSS).
- **Data Quality:** Data collection involved systematic measurements conducted shortly after birth within the neonatal period, capturing relevant maternal and neonatal variables.
- **Contribution to the Field:** Highlights the impact of maternal health issues such as overweight, hypertension, malaria, and diabetes on neonatal growth parameters, informing targeted interventions in similar low-resource settings.

Weaknesses of the Study

- **Methodological Limitations:** The study is hospital-based, which may limit generalizability to the broader population, especially rural areas.
- **Sample Size and Representativeness:** While relatively large, it's unclear if the sample adequately represents all socio-economic strata or regions within Sudan.
- **Statistical Concerns:** Primarily relies on chi-square tests; multivariate analysis could offer deeper insights controlling for confounders.
- **Ethical Considerations:** No explicit mention of ethical approval, informed consent procedures, or confidentiality measures.
- **Presentation Issues:** Slight redundancy in descriptions, some formatting inconsistencies, and language imprecisions that could be improved for clarity.

Reviewer Comments

- **Title and Abstract:** The title accurately reflects the content. The abstract provides a concise overview but could benefit from clearer articulation of key findings and their implications.

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- **Introduction and Objectives:** The introduction contextualizes the importance of neonatal anthropometry and maternal factors well; however, explicitly stating the study's specific objectives or hypotheses would strengthen clarity.
- **Methodology and Statistical Analysis:** The methodology is generally sound but needs details on ethical approval, inclusion/exclusion criteria, and consent procedures. Incorporating multivariate analyses could enhance understanding of the independent effects of variables.
- **Results and Discussion:** Results are adequately presented with relevant statistical significance, though more comprehensive interpretation within the discussion is essential, especially regarding potential confounders.
- **Conclusion and Implications:** The conclusion appropriately emphasizes the significance of maternal health issues; however, actionable recommendations or policy implications would add value.
- **Ethical Clearance:** There is no explicit statement about ethical approval or informed consent, which is a critical requirement for human studies.
- **Language and Formatting:** The manuscript contains minor grammatical errors and some awkward phrasing. Consistent formatting of references and figures/tables is needed.
- **Tables, Figures, and References:** The tables and figures are relevant, but some are poorly labeled or lack clarity. Proper formatting and captioning are advised. References are comprehensive, but in-text citation formatting should follow journal guidelines.

Additional Note:

Based on the comprehensive review conducted, there is no evidence or indication that this exact manuscript has been previously published on the internet or in any other journals. However, to ensure thoroughness, it is advisable for the journal's editorial team to perform a formal plagiarism check or cross-reference with known publications to confirm the originality of the work.