

Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	Asian Journal of Biochemistry, Genetics and Molecular Biology
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJBGMB_83228
Title of the Manuscript:	EVALUATION OF ZINC STATUS AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE OF PREGNANT WOMEN IN OSOGBO METROPOLIS, SOUTH-WESTERN NIGERIA
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

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Review Form 1.6

PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Compulsory REVISION comments		
Minor REVISION comments	<p>I have reviewed the manuscript EVALUATION OF ZINC STATUS AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE OF PREGNANT WOMEN IN OSOGBO METROPOLIS, SOUTH-WESTERN NIGERIA and it was interesting.</p> <p>However, I have some minor comments, which you will see below.</p> <p>1. Introduction</p> <p>a) In my opinion, these two paragraphs contain repetitive information.</p> <p>"...Micronutrient deficiencies have been associated with significantly higher reproductive risks both in the conception period and throughout the course of gestation [4-6] and may include anemia, pregnancy induced hypertension and preeclampsia, fetal growth restriction, labor complications leading to increased maternal and fetal morbidity or mortality [7]..."</p> <p>"...If there should be a comprised of nutrition during pregnancy, it can result in adverse effects such as anemia, pregnancy-induced hypertension, complications of labor and even death [11]. Furthermore, the fetus can be affected, resulting in stillbirth, pre-term delivery, intrauterine growth retardation, congenital malformations, reduced immuno-competence, and abnormal organ development..."</p> <p>b) When formulating the aim of the study, the authors should be indicated in which tissues they studied the concentration of zinc (serum, urine, hair and nails?).</p> <p>"...This study is aimed at comparing the concentration of zinc (where?) in first, second and third trimesters of pregnancy and relate them with dietary zinc contents..."</p> <p>2. Methods and materials</p> <p>a) Are 75 study participants enough? Or is it the pilot study? Please include sample size calculation.</p> <p>b) Were the continuous variables normally distributed?</p> <p>c) Did the authors determine the value of the Levene`s test for equality of variances when performing the Student's test and/or ANOVA? Were the data homogeneous or not?</p> <p>Maybe, the authors would have found statistically significant differences using non-parametric research methods.</p> <p>3. Results and discussion</p> <p>a) Please add a description of the groups of participants (height, weight, BMI, age, education levels, socioeconomic levels, dietary zinc contents).</p> <p>b) Provide a reference here:</p>	

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	<p>"...Also zinc deficiency is associated with adverse birth outcomes e.g. premature delivery. ..."</p> <p>and here "...The devastating effects of low maternal zinc level is not limited to the fetus, zinc deficiency has been linked with pregnancy-induced hypertension in mothers. ..."</p> <p>and here "...Similar observations have been made in Nigerian pregnant women. ..."</p> <p>and here "...Other conditions such as smoking and alcohol abuse, capable of altering maternal zinc status and preventing adequate supply of zinc to the fetus are not present in the recruited subjects as they were part of the exclusion criteria. ..."</p> <p>4. Conclusion</p> <p>What is SES? Abbreviations are defined after the first time used in the manuscript text.</p>	
Optional/General comments		

PART 2:

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment <i>(if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	<i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i>	

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