

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-54507

Date: 25/10/2025

Title: "Prevalence and Risk Factors of Childhood Obesity: A Community Survey in Kerala"

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

Date: 26/10/2025

Reviewer's Comment for Publication:

This study addresses an urgent health issue with a sound methodological approach and provides valuable insights into childhood obesity in Kerala. However, it requires significant revisions to improve clarity, organization, and scientific rigor before publication.

Reviewer's Comment / Report

Strengths:

- Relevant Topic:** The study addresses an important public health issue—childhood obesity—which is increasingly prevalent worldwide and particularly significant in India.
- Clear Objectives and Hypotheses:** The research clearly states its objectives and hypotheses, providing a focused framework for investigation.
- Methodology:** Utilizes a descriptive cross-sectional survey design suitable for prevalence studies. The sample size (300 mothers) is adequate for the objectives, and inclusion/exclusion criteria are well defined.
- Data Collection Instruments:** The use of standardized tools such as the Family Planning Nutrition Assessment (FNPA) enhances data reliability.
- Identification of Key Risk Factors:** The study highlights junk food consumption as significantly associated with obesity risk, aligning with existing literature.
- Discussion of Implications:** It offers practical recommendations for nursing practice, education, and administration, emphasizing preventive strategies.

Weaknesses:

- Structural and Formatting Issues:** The document's formatting appears inconsistent, with pages numbered and headings that interrupt the flow of reading. Some sections (e.g., introduction, methods) could be better organized.
- Language and Grammar:** There are several grammatical mistakes and typographical errors, e.g., inconsistent tense usage ("most children had moderate risk" vs. "most children showed a moderate risk"), and awkward sentence constructions that hinder clarity.
- Incomplete Data Presentation:** While associations are discussed, detailed statistical data (e.g., confidence intervals, exact p-values) are sparse, limiting the assessment of the robustness of findings.
- Limited Analysis of Variables:** The study highlights junk food consumption but does not sufficiently analyze other potential factors like physical activity, socioeconomic status, or genetic predisposition.
- Inconsistencies in References:** The referencing style appears inconsistent, with some references missing complete bibliographic details or proper formatting.
- Lack of Visual Data Aids:** The inclusion of tables, figures, or graphs summarizing key findings would improve data interpretation.

International Journal of Advanced Research

Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP

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7. **Ethical Considerations:** Ethical approval is mentioned, but details about consent procedures are minimal.

Recommendations to the Author:

- **Language Editing:** Perform thorough proofreading to correct grammatical errors, improve sentence structure, and ensure consistent tense usage.
- **Formatting:** Standardize headings, subheadings, and references. Incorporate tables and figures where appropriate to summarize results.
- **Data Detailing:** Include detailed statistical analysis, such as confidence intervals and exact p-values, to strengthen the validity of associations.
- **Expand Analysis:** Consider analyzing additional variables like physical activity and socioeconomic status more comprehensively.
- **Reference Formatting:** Follow a consistent referencing style throughout.
- **Include Ethical Details:** Briefly describe the process of obtaining informed consent from participants.
- **Clarify Methodology:** Provide more details on the tool's validity, reliability, and data collection procedures.