

January 2021 Resource Review

The **REFINE Resource Review** is a collection of materials to keep you updated on research related to food assistance products and malnutrition. Resources identified and added between October and December 2020 are detailed below and are available on the [REFINE website](#).

The goal of Research Engagement on Food Interventions for Nutritional Effectiveness (REFINE) is to enhance the accessibility to, and exchange of, rigorous, operational and policy relevant research on **nutrition-directed interventions that improve nutrition in both emergency and non-emergency contexts**.

REFINE is a product of the [Food Aid Quality Review \(FAQR\)](#) project, which is funded by the United States Agency for International Development's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) and provides actionable recommendations on ways to improve nutrition among vulnerable populations for whom the direct distribution of food assistance can make a significant impact.

Feel free to direct any questions, comments, and additional resources you come across to Natalie Volin, the REFINE Research Assistant, at natalie.volin@tufts.edu.



Ongoing Clinical Trials

This section includes ongoing trials on one of five clinical trial registries searched by REFINE.

Effect of enhanced nutrition education of mothers on post-hospital discharge outcomes of children with severe acute malnutrition: a randomized controlled trial, Kenya

- [PACTR201905790643955](#): This study aims to enhance nutrition education of caregivers on affordable high nutrient foods through post-discharge video demonstrations and short telephone text messages.
- Principal Investigator: Dr. Beatrice Mutai, Department of Pediatrics, College of Health Sciences, University of Nairobi
- Primary Sponsor: Partnership in Health Research Training Program

Standardized Corn-Soy Blend with Nutrition Education versus Nutrition Education Alone in Community-based Management of Children Under Five Years of Age with Moderate Acute Malnutrition, Nigeria

- [PACTR202002462358066](#): This clinical trial seeks to evaluate the effectiveness of supplementary dose of corn-soy blend with nutrition education versus nutrition education alone in the management of under-fives with MAM in Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria.
- Principal Investigator: Dr. Ekong Udoh Paediatric Department, University of Uyo Teaching Hospital
- Primary Sponsor: University of Uyo

Severe acute malnutrition treatment delivered by community health workers in emergency settings of Mali (iCCM+ Project), Mali

- [ISRCTN60973756](#): The Integrated Community Case Management (iCCM) strategy is based on training non-medical Community Health Workers (CHWs) to provide selected curative services

for high mortality infectious diseases. iCCM has been described as a logical platform and missed opportunity to increase the coverage of uncomplicated SAM treatment and prevent malnutrition. This study hypothesizes that the decentralization of treatment through Community Health Workers with a modified protocol will increase coverage and cost-effectiveness while maintaining quality standards in the outcomes.

- Principal Investigator: Noemí López-Ejeda, PhD
- Primary Sponsor: Complutense University of Madrid

Effectiveness of LNS and SBCC to Prevent Stunting Among Children in Afghanistan: a Quasi-experimental Study, Afghanistan

- [NCT04581993](#): This operational research study with mix-methods design aims to evaluate the stunting prevention programme and process evaluations for stronger evidence base on the effectiveness of proposed interventions on prevention of stunting and developing viable programs on nutrition under "real" operational conditions.
- Principal Investigator: Sajid B Soofi, MBBS, FCPS
- Primary Sponsor: Aga Khan University



Published Food Assistance Product Studies

This section includes publications reporting on interventions utilizing food assistance products including evaluations from programs using food assistance products.

Castillo-Castrejon, M., Yang, I.V., Davidson, E.J., Borengasser, S.J., Jambal, P., Westcott, J., Kemp, J.F., Garces, A., Ali, S.A., Saleem, S. and Goldenberg, R.L., 2020. **Preconceptional Lipid-Based Nutrient Supplementation in 2 Low-Resource Countries Results in Distinctly Different IGF-1/mTOR Placental Responses.** *The Journal of Nutrition.*

<https://academic.oup.com/jn/advance-article/doi/10.1093/jn/nxaa354/6056517?login=true>

Cazes, C., Phelan, K., Hubert, V., Alitanou, R., Boubacar, H., Bozama, L.I., Sakubu, G.T., Beuscart, A., Yao, C., Gabillard, D. and Kinda, M., 2020. **Simplifying and optimising management of acute malnutrition in children aged 6 to 59 months: study protocol for a community-based individually randomised controlled trial in Kasai, Democratic Republic of Congo.** *BMJ open*, 10(12), p.e041213.

<https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/10/12/e041213.abstract>

David, S.M., Ragasudha, P.N., Taneja, S., Mohan, S.B., Iyengar, S.D., Pricilla, R.A., Martinez, J., Sachdev, H.S., Suhalka, V., Mohan, V.R. and Mazumder, S., 2020. **Predictors of recovery in children aged 6–59 months with uncomplicated severe acute malnutrition: a multicentre study.** *Public Health Nutrition*, pp.1-9.

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33222710/>

Okronipa, H., Quezada-Sánchez, A.D., Johnson, S.L., Rawlinson, C., Pacheco-Miranda, S., Venosa López, M., Gonzalez Navarrete, W. and Arenas, A.B., 2020. **Effect of Added Sugar on the Consumption of A Lipid-Based Nutrient Supplement Among 7–24-Month-Old Children.** *Nutrients*, 12(10), p.3069.

<https://www.mdpi.com/2072-6643/12/10/3069/pdf>

Olsen, M.F., Iuel-Brockdorff, A.S., Yaméogo, C.W., Cichon, B., Fabiansen, C., Filteau, S., Phelan, K., Ouédraogo, A., Michaelsen, K.F., Gladstone, M. and Ashorn, P., 2020. **Impact of food supplements**

on early child development in children with moderate acute malnutrition: A randomised 2 x 2 x 3 factorial trial in Burkina Faso. *PLoS medicine*, 17(12), p.e1003442.

<https://journals.plos.org/plosmedicine/article?id=10.1371/journal.pmed.1003442>



REFINE Resources Library

The REFINE Library is a collection of resources relating to food-supported interventions, including systematic reviews, meta-analyses, organizational documents, and general discussion pieces on key topics related to food assistance products and interventions.

Horino, M., Bahar, L., Al-Jadba, G., Habash, R., Akihiro, S. and West Jr, K.P., 2020. **Dietary Inadequacy, Micronutrient Deficiencies, and Approaches to Preventing Poor Nutrition in the Gaza Strip.** *Food and nutrition bulletin*, p.0379572120967819.

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0379572120967819>

Kaur, S., Kumar, V., Kumar, S., Suri, S. and Kaur, J., 2020. **Considerations for development of low-cost supplementary foods for lactating women in India—a review.** *Nutrition & Food Science*.

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Vikas_Kumar91/publication/343497863

Njuguna, R.G., Berkley, J.A. and Jemutai, J., 2020. **Cost and cost-effectiveness analysis of treatment for child undernutrition in low-and middle-income countries: A systematic review.** *Wellcome Open Research*, 5(62), p.62.

<https://wellcomeopenresearch.org/articles/5-62>



REFINE Search and Selection Criteria

Search Criteria for consideration for REFINE:

- **Condition:** malnutrition OR undernutrition OR stunting OR stunted OR wasting OR wasted
- **Intervention:** supplement OR food OR RUF OR RUTF LNS OR “nutrition program”

Selection Criteria for Inclusion in REFINE:

- **Interventions:** Those that use food assistance products, use foods that have been nutritionally enhanced, or study specific ingredients that are intended for use in food assistance.
- **Study population:** Restricted to those without chronic conditions that confound nutritional health (e.g., diabetes, HIV/AIDS, etc.)
- **Outcome measures:** Eligible studies report outcome measures including birth weight, weight gain, height gain, weight-for-age, height-for-age, weight-for-height/length, mid-upper arm circumference, lean body mass, recovery, mortality, default, nutritional intake, cognitive abilities, and product acceptability. Studies investigating the intergenerational effects of an intervention are considered if outcomes measures include wasted or stunted status of the participants, or body composition in addition to another measure of recovery.



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