



Ratna Dwi Wulandari &lt;ratna-d-w@fkm.unair.ac.id&gt;

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**Invitation to Review for BMJ Open bmjopen-2021-059928**

1 message

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**BMJ Open** <onbehalf@manuscriptcentral.com>  
Reply-To: info.bmjopen@bmj.com  
To: ratna-d-w@fkm.unair.ac.id

Tue, Feb 15, 2022 at 1:26 AM

14-Feb-2022

Dear Dr. Wulandari:

BMJ Open is an open access journal from BMJ, a sister journal to The BMJ but with different editorial priorities. The journal is published here: <http://bmjopen.bmj.com>.

Manuscript ID bmjopen-2021-059928 entitled "Time trends and determinants of age-appropriate breastfeeding among children aged 0-23 months in Ghana: a pooled analysis of six national surveys, 2003 - 2017" with Dr. Mohammed as contact author has been submitted to BMJ Open.

I invite you to review this manuscript. The abstract appears at the end of this letter, along with the names of the authors. Please let me know as soon as possible if you will be able to accept this invitation. We ask reviewers to return their reviews within 14 days of agreeing to review.

The Journal is located at <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/bmjopen>.

PLEASE NOTE: BMJ Open uses compulsory fully open peer review. You will be asked to sign your review and declare any competing interests. The authors will be aware of who reviewed their manuscript and your review will be published alongside the author's original versions and responses to your review if the article is accepted. If you do not sign your review the editorial office will complete this section on your behalf.

BMJ Open has partnered with Publons, a free service for reviewers, to help reviewers gain credit for their work. To take advantage of this service, you will first need to create a profile on Publons. When you submit your review via ScholarOne you will then be asked whether you would like to be credited for your review on Publons. In addition, Publons has partnered with ORCID so that reviewers can opt to have their verified review history automatically added to their ORCID profile.

If you are unable to review at this time, I would greatly appreciate your recommendations for other expert reviewers. You may e-mail me with your reply or click the appropriate link at the bottom of the page to automatically register your reply with our online manuscript submission and review system, ScholarOne Manuscripts.

In recognition of reviewers' support, any reviewer that returns a full review, on time, can receive a 25% discount on Article Processing Charges for a paper for which they are the corresponding author, if submitted within 12 months of completing the review.

We ask reviewers to help ensure studies are scientifically credible and were conducted ethically and in accordance with appropriate reporting guidelines. We do not require a judgement on priority or breadth of appeal.

Once you accept the invitation to review, you will be notified via e-mail about how to access ScholarOne Manuscripts. You will then have access to the manuscript and reviewer instructions in your Reviewer Center.

BMJ Open's success will rely heavily on the thoroughness of reviews submitted and I thank you for your present and/or future support.

Sincerely,

BMJ Open Editorial Office  
[info.bmjopen@bmj.com](mailto:info.bmjopen@bmj.com)

We are constantly trying to find ways of improving the peer review system and have an ongoing programme of research. If you do not wish your review entered into a study please let us know by emailing [info.bmjopen@bmj.com](mailto:info.bmjopen@bmj.com) as soon as possible.

\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE: This is a two-step process. After clicking on the link, you will be directed to a webpage to confirm.

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Decline - Conflict of Interest: [https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/bmjopen?URL\\_MASK=c8ad9b8100b3451f816fc29328691bc4](https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/bmjopen?URL_MASK=c8ad9b8100b3451f816fc29328691bc4)

Agreed: [https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/bmjopen?URL\\_MASK=c8092e92128d45adb6c4ffbfba43a9ed](https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/bmjopen?URL_MASK=c8092e92128d45adb6c4ffbfba43a9ed)

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## MANUSCRIPT DETAILS

**TITLE:** Time trends and determinants of age-appropriate breastfeeding among children aged 0-23 months in Ghana: a pooled analysis of six national surveys, 2003 - 2017

**AUTHORS:** Mohammed, Shamsudeen; Oakley, Laura; Marston, Milly; Glynn, Judith; Calvert, Clara

**ABSTRACT:** Objective We assessed the sociodemographic and maternal-child characteristics associated with age-appropriate breastfeeding among children aged 0-23 months in Ghana.

**Methods** We pooled data on 12743 children aged 0-23 months from three Demographic and Health Surveys (2003, 2008, and 2014) and three Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (2006, 2011, and 2017-18). The outcome was age-appropriate breastfeeding from birth to 23 months, with age-appropriate breastfeeding defined as exclusive breastfeeding at 0-5 months and breastfeeding alongside appropriate complementary feeding at 6-23 months. Potential determinants were maternal-child sociodemographic, obstetric, and healthcare factors. Logistic regression was used to determine the factors associated with age-appropriate breastfeeding. We accounted for the complex sampling design of the surveys in the analysis.

**Results** Most women fed children only breastmilk to age three months and then introduced water or solid foods alongside breastfeeding. Exclusive breastfeeding prevalence in children 0-5 months peaked in 2008 at 62.8% and declined to 42.9% in 2017. For 6-11-month-olds, the percentage experiencing age-appropriate breastfeeding has been stable over the last four surveys, ranging from 79.3% in 2008 to 81.1% in 2017. Age-appropriate breastfeeding in 12-23-month-olds declined from 77.8% in 2003 to 61.2% in 2017. Rural residence, younger age, non-facility births, and multiple births were associated with decreased odds of exclusively breastfeeding. For 6-11-month-olds, age-appropriate breastfeeding was less likely if the woman did not receive postnatal care. Younger women, unmarried women, women with high income, women wanting a child later, and earlier birth order were associated with decreased odds of age-appropriate breastfeeding in 12-23-month-olds. Across all child age groups, appropriate breastfeeding varied by ethnicity and region.

**Conclusion** Ghanaian children are now less likely to be exclusively breastfed than they were a decade ago. To succeed, breastfeeding promotion programs should adopt approaches that address the predictors of suboptimal breastfeeding at each age, as identified in this study.



Ratna Dwi Wulandari &lt;ratna-d-w@fkm.unair.ac.id&gt;

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**Reminder: Review Due Today - BMJ Open**

1 message

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**BMJ Open** <onbehalf@manuscriptcentral.com>  
Reply-To: info.bmjopen@bmj.com  
To: ratna-d-w@fkm.unair.ac.id

Wed, Mar 2, 2022 at 1:06 PM

02-Mar-2022

Dear Dr. Wulandari:

Recently, you agreed to review Manuscript ID bmjopen-2021-059928, entitled "Time trends and determinants of age-appropriate breastfeeding among children aged 0-23 months in Ghana: a pooled analysis of six national surveys, 2003 - 2017." This e-mail is a reminder that your review is now due. Please complete and submit your review.

To access just the manuscript for review directly with no need to enter log in details, click the link below:

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Do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Andy McLarnon  
Managing Editor, BMJ Open  
[amclarnon@bmj.com](mailto:amclarnon@bmj.com)



Ratna Dwi Wulandari &lt;ratna-d-w@fkm.unair.ac.id&gt;

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**Thank you for your review - A decision has been made**

1 message

**BMJ Open** <onbehalf@manuscriptcentral.com>

Wed, Apr 27, 2022 at 5:35 PM

Reply-To: info.bmjopen@bmj.com

To: info.bmjopen@bmj.com

bmjopen-2021-059928

Title: Time trends and determinants of age-appropriate breastfeeding among children aged 0-23 months in Ghana: a pooled analysis of six national surveys, 2003 - 2017

Dear Reviewer,

We are very grateful for the time you have generously given to help us ensure that BMJ Open publishes high quality and accessible content. We could not do this without the advice and expertise of our reviewers.

The review process for this article has now been completed, we have made a decision of Major Revision

Comments to the Author collated during the peer review process are below:

Editor(s)' Comments to Author (if any):

Reviewer(s)' Comments to Author (if any):

Reviewer: 1

Comments to the Author:

Work to address the comments imbedded in the word version of the manuscript.

Reviewer: 2

Comments to the Author:

Method

Provide a more detailed description of the sample of 6 surveys to illustrate that six surveys meet the requirements for alignment.

Variable operational definition

Why is the calculation of the prevalence of exclusive breastfeeding in this article only for children 0-5 months?

Shouldn't it be 0-6 months?

Results

Please explain beforehand how many respondents are for each age group of children? How many respondents are aged 0-5 months, 6-11 months, and 12-23 months? More detailed data is needed to get an accurate picture of the achievement of exclusive breastfeeding.

Suppose at the time of the survey, the infant's age was still at an early birth age, for example, 0-2 months; this data cannot describe the actual achievement of exclusive breastfeeding. A new baby will be declared to achieve exclusive breastfeeding if the baby's age has passed six months.

If we look at Figure 2 part A, it can be seen that at the age of 6 months and over, the red area (which indicates not breastfeeding) is getting wider from month to month. This means that the number of children who are not breastfed is increasing. Nevertheless, why does Figure 2 part B show that appropriately breastfed children continue to improve their graph at 6-11 months of age?

Page 7, lines 40 – 44 are explanations of Figure 2. In Figure 2 A, the author creates several infant feeding groups marked with different bar colors. Based on the operational definitions on page 5, lines 40 – 41, which one is included in the category of age-appropriate infant feeding practices? The author has not elaborated this crucial explanation in the methods and results.

If you have any questions or feedback, please do not hesitate to contact the Editorial Office.

Thank you again for your valued contribution and we hope that you will be able to review for BMJ Open again in the future.

Kind regards,

5/3/23, 8:53 PM

Airlangga University Mail - Thank you for your review - A decision has been made

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BMJ Open Editorial Office