ASSOCIATION OF HOUSEHOLD FOOD SECURITY STATUS WITH MOTHER/CAREGIVER-CHILD PAIR’S NUTRITIONAL STATUS USING THREE INDICATORS OF HOUSEHOLD FOOD SECURITY

INTRODUCTION

- Food security is not easily achieved by households and individuals because of poverty, inadequate food supply, climate change, and many other interacting factors.
- Mothers/caregivers and their children are vulnerable to the effect of household food insecurity. It is important to assess the impact of household food insecurity on their nutritional status.
- Proper nutrition is essential for people to work productively and contribute to the economic growth of the country.
- The main objective of the study was to determine the association of household food security status with mother/caregiver-child pair’s (MCCP) nutritional status using three indicators of household food security.
  - The specific objectives were the following:
    1. Estimate the proportion of food insecure household using: (a) HFIAS, (b) FCS, and (c) HFIAS and FCS;
    2. Estimate the proportion of Filipino household with mother/caregiver and/or at least one child aged zero to five years old who have undernutrition status; and
    3. Determine the association between household status of food security with mother/caregiver-child pair’s nutritional status using (a) HFIAS, (b) FCS, and (c) HFIAS and FCS as measures of food insecurity;

MATERIALS AND METHODS

- Secondary data from the 2013 National Nutrition Survey conducted by DOST-FNRI was used for the study.
- The indicators used to measure food insecurity are the subjective indicator, Household Food Insecurity Access Scale (HFIAS), the objective indicator, Food Consumption Score (FCS), and the combination of HFIAS-FCS.
- A total of 6,984 households of mother-child dyad with complete household (socio-demographic and food security status) and individual information (weight and height measurements) were included in the analysis.

Now

- Filipino household with children 0 month to 60 months old
  - Food secure households as classified by:
    a. HFIAS
    b. FCS
    c. HFIAS and FCS
  - Height-for-age and BMI
  - Household with CED mother/caregiver and/or at least one stunted child
  - Household without CED mother/caregiver and stunted child

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RESULTS

Table 1. Estimates of food insecurity using the three indicators of food security

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Point estimate of prevalence</th>
<th>95% CI</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HFIAS</td>
<td>75.1</td>
<td>73.9-76.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FCS</td>
<td>15.7</td>
<td>14.7-16.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HFIAS-FCS</td>
<td>14.4</td>
<td>13.4-15.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2. Frequencies of the occurrence of undernutrition in sample households, Philippines, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nutritional status of mother/caregiver and child</th>
<th>Frequency (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>With CED mother/caregiver and at least one stunted child</td>
<td>303 (4.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With CED mother/caregiver only</td>
<td>336 (4.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With at least one stunted child only</td>
<td>2,151 (60.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Without CED mother/caregiver and stunted child</td>
<td>4,164 (60.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>6,984 (100%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

• The study provided evidence that food insecure households in the country have 22-28% higher risk of having an occurrence of undernutrition in a household.

• Interventions for the improvement of nutritional status should not only be nutrition specific but also nutrition sensitive like livelihood program and cash-for-work program.

• Validation studies on household food security indicators such as criterion validity studies are needed to know which indicator captures the true food security situation in the country.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The author would like to acknowledge the following: (1) DOST- Human Resource Development Program for funding this study; (2) Mr. Jay Lord Q. Canag for the preparation of data set and the guidance in the statistical analysis of the study; (3) Dr. Cecilia Cristina Acuin and Ms. Cristina Malabad for their valuable inputs in this study and (4) the Nutritional Assessment Monitoring Division (NAMD) of DOST-FNRI for letting the author use the data of the 2013 National Nutrition Survey for this study.