

REFINE Resource Review: April 2020

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

The goal of Research Engagement on Food Innovations 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 Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP) and provides actionable recommendations on ways to improve nutrition among vulnerable populations for whom the direct distribution of food aid can make a significant impact.

Please direct all questions or comments to natalie.volin@tufts.edu.

Ongoing Clinical Trials Added to REFINE Roster

- **Assessment of a Combined Strategy of SMC + Nutrients Supplementation to Tackle Malaria and Malnutrition (SMC-NUT)**, Burkina Faso
- [NCT04238845](#): To assess the combined strategy of SMC together with a daily oral nutrients supplement on the incidence of malaria in this population and burden of malnutrition among children in Burkina Faso.
- Principal Investigator: Institut de Recherché en Sciences de la Santé, Burkina Faso
- Anticipated Completion Date: March 2022

Published Food Aid Product Studies added to REFINE

This section includes publications from individual clinical trials testing food aid products, and reports and evaluations from programs using food aid products.

Adams, K. P., et al. (2020). **“The impact of maternal supplementation during pregnancy and the first 6 months postpartum on the growth status of the next child born after the intervention period: Follow-up results from Bangladesh and Ghana.”** *Maternal and Child Nutrition*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/mcn.12927>

Chunda-Liyoka, C., et al. (2020). **“Healthy pregnancies and essential fats: Focus group discussions with Zambian women on dietary need and acceptability of a novel RUSF containing fish oil DHA.”** *BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth*, 20(1). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12884-020-2783-8>

Cliffer, I. R., et al. (2020). **“Cost-Effectiveness of 4 Specialized Nutritious Foods in the Prevention of Stunting and Wasting in Children Aged 6–23 Months in Burkina Faso: A Geographically Randomized Trial.”** *Current Developments in Nutrition*, 4(2). <https://doi.org/10.1093/CDN/NZAA006>

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- Hendrixson, D. T., et al. (2020). **“Treatment of severe acute malnutrition with oat or standard ready-to-use therapeutic food: a triple-blind, randomised controlled clinical trial.”** *Gut*, gutjnl-2020-320769. <https://doi.org/10.1136/gutjnl-2020-320769>
- Langlois, B. K., et al. (2020). **“Factors that May Influence the Effectiveness of 4 Specialized Nutritious Foods in the Prevention of Stunting and Wasting in Children Aged 6-23 Months in Burkina Faso.”** *Current Developments in Nutrition*, 4(2), nzaa002. <https://doi.org/10.1093/cdn/nzaa002>
- Marquer, C., et al. (2020). **“Intrahousehold management and use of nutritional supplements during the hunger gap in Maradi region, Niger: a qualitative study.”** *BMC Nutrition*, 6(1), 4. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40795-019-0329-0>
- Shen, Y., et al. (2020). **“Impact of stakeholder perspectives on cost-effectiveness estimates of four specialized nutritious foods for preventing stunting and wasting in children 6-23 months in Burkina Faso.”** *Nutrition Journal*, 19(1). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12937-020-00535-x>

Other Publications Added to REFINE 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 aid products and interventions.

- Isanaka, S., et al. (2020). **“Energy needs in the treatment of uncomplicated severe acute malnutrition: Secondary analysis to optimize delivery of ready-to-use therapeutic foods.”** *Maternal and Child Nutrition*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/mcn.12989>
- Lassi, Z. S., et al. (2020). **“Impact of Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) Nutrition Interventions on Breastfeeding Practices, Growth and Mortality in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: Systematic Review.”** In *Nutrients* 12(3). NLM (Medline). <https://doi.org/10.3390/nu12030722>
- Manary, M., & Callaghan-Gillespie, M. (2020). **“Role of Optimized Plant Protein Combinations as a Low-Cost Alternative to Dairy Ingredients in Foods for Prevention and Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition and Severe Acute Malnutrition.”** In *Global Landscape of Nutrition Challenges in Infants and Children* 93, 111-120. Karger Publishers. <https://doi.org/10.1159/000503347>
- Tam, E., et al. (2020). **“Micronutrient supplementation and fortification interventions on health and development outcomes among children under-five in low-and middle-income countries: A systematic review and meta-analysis.”** In *Nutrients* 12(2), 289. MDPI AG. <https://doi.org/10.3390/nu12020289>

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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 aid products, use foods that have been nutritionally enhanced, or study specific ingredients that are intended for use in food aid.
- **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.