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Editorial

# Introduction to the first issue of World Nutrition for 2024

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As we have had to do too many times in recent years, we begin here by sadly reporting that we have lost another of the giants in our field, Dr. Noel Solomons. He died on March 24 in Guatemala, his adopted home for nearly 40 years. He was a prolific writer, with nearly 500 books and articles, and spent decades working with dozens of Central Americans, enabling them to obtain nutrition-related graduate degrees.

This issue of the journal begins with research by Adeyanju et al. among commercial vehicle drivers in an area of Nigeria. Given how difficult it is for people with such a profession to eat healthy and exercise regularly, it is not surprising that the majority are overweight. The second paper, by Pradhan and Sobti, is a study of hygiene practices in an area of the Punjab, India, during artificial feeding. Most washed their hands with soap and sterilized bottles, with levels increasing with higher education levels achieved by the mothers.

The next three research papers all stem from the same intervention project in three districts scattered through three regions of Ghana. (A fourth paper will be probably be published in our next issue.) The first, by Kushitor et al., is a qualitative exploration of perceptions and experiences of the intervention by stakeholders, government officials, and beneficiaries. The second, by Donkor et al., examines the availability, acceptability, and utilization of micronutrient fortification (in the form of a subsidized commercial fortified powder containing 8 essential amino acids, 13 vitamins and 8 minerals) for children 6-23 months of age. The third paper, by Habib et al., is a mixed methods report on the quantity and utilization of orange-fleshed sweet potatoes and eggs produced by project beneficiaries with assistance from the intervention.

The next paper is a systematic review by Simtion et al. of the impact of the Mediterranean diet on colorectal cancer recurrence following chemotherapy treatment.

This is followed by two commentaries. The first is by Greiner (me), suggesting that public health services go beyond LAM in how they educate parents about the birth spacing effects of exclusive and continued intensive breastfeeding. The second, by Larbi, is a discussion of why the 2016 National Nutrition Policy of Ghana has had little impact on the social determinants of health and what is needed to improve its impact on health and nutrition in the future.

In closing, I would like to thank our new typesetting company, SIRONigeria Global Limited, for patiently working with us to put out this issue of the journal.

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

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