December 2, 2021

Department of Statistics

Shahjalal University of Science & Technology

Sylhet-3114, Bangladesh

To:

Editor in Chief –Early Childhood Research Quarterly

Subject: Submission of Manuscript

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please find enclosed our manuscript entitled “Early childhood developmental status and its associated factors in Bangladesh: a comparison of two consecutive nationally representative surveys”, which we hope you will consider for publication as a research article to Early Childhood Research Quarterly.

Childhood period is the golden period for children’s life to make themselves highly thirsty for learning and physically fit to become a successful and productive person in later life. Children begin to learn about the world around them within five years of birth, and this development refers to the sequence of physical, language, thought, and emotional changes, which allows them to stay focused, understand and follow directions, communicate with others, and solve increasingly complex problems. Hence, we aimed to determine whether the early childhood development status and its associated factors changed in two consecutive Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) in Bangladesh. We used the latest available nationally representative data from a multiple indicator cluster survey (MICS, 2012 and 2019). We found the proportions of children developmentally on track status increase gradually in Bangladesh. The results from the MICS 2012 and MICS 2019 data showed a significant association between developmentally on track status and some other variables (child age, child sex, division, mothers’ education, early childhood program, other stimulation, books, toys and child punishment). Therefore, we think our study is relevant and timely for readers of Early Childhood Research Quarterly.

This manuscript represents original research, and it has not been published and is not being considered for publication elsewhere, in whole or in part, in any language. The authors believe this study is a key addition to the literature by demonstrating that the association between children developmentally on track status and associated factors using three recent nationally representative survey datasets. All authors have approved the manuscript and affirm contributing to the conception, design analysis, and interpretation of the data. None of the authors report a conflict of interest.

Any consideration you may be able to give this manuscript in Early Childhood Research Quarterly will be much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Md Jamal Uddin

(Corresponding Author)