

O02 (continued)

meaningful behavior changes. They wanted the program to be longer as it would have provided them the opportunity to continue their behavior changes.

Conclusions: Findings indicate that a social media can be a useful tool to remotely implement evidence-based nutrition education interventions for pregnant women in low-income neighborhoods. Further research with a longer intervention duration is warranted to sustain behavioral changes.

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O03 Exploring Intra-Household Food Insecurity Experiences in Southern Ethiopia

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Background: Gamo families of southern, rural, Ethiopia live in harsh environments and may experience times of food insecurity (FI). While FI is a household level measurement, perceptions and experiences related to the condition may be viewed differently between Gamo spouses due to various sociocultural norms.

Objective: To explore potential differences in perceptions and experiences of FI between Gamo mothers and fathers.

Study Design, Setting, Participants: Semi-structured interviews were conducted with Gamo dyads (n=33) of mothers and fathers exploring parental perceptions and experiences related to various environmental factors, including household FI.

Measurable Outcome/Analysis: Using a basic inductive analytical framework, two coders used an iterative, data-driven analysis process to independently apply codes to transcripts within NVivo. Next, the coders applied discourse analysis tools including I and we statements, and position design and identity building to transcripts. Code frequencies were calculated, and coding matrices and hierarchical charts were developed to inform direct content analysis.

Results: Over 75% of participating mothers and fathers (n=25 dyads) agreed on household food security status with their spouse, while the remaining 8 dyads disagreed. Of those 25 dyads in agreement, n=21 reported some indication of FI. While both mothers and fathers reported various FI-related barriers and coping strategies, fathers used I statements (n=29 statements) more often to describe their FI experiences compared to we statements (n=8 statements). The frequency of I and we statements among mothers did not differ.

Conclusions: High rates of perceived FI were noted among the participating Gamo families. In some cases, intra-household FI experiences varied between mothers and

fathers. With the differences in discourse related to FI noted between genders in this study, interventions and policies aimed to improve this household-level condition among Gamo families may need to include gender-specific elements tailored to the differing perceptions and experiences of barriers to and coping strategies for achieving a food secure home.

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O04 The Impact of COVID-19 on Perceived Barriers and Facilitators to the Healthfulness of Communities With Low-Income

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Background: The COVID-19 pandemic brought new challenges affecting the wellbeing of individuals in communities with low income. Understanding where people live and how those environments can facilitate or hinder living a healthy lifestyle is essential for developing interventions that target behavior change and health promotion.

Objective: This study compares Extension Nutrition Educators' (NEs) perceptions of the barriers and facilitators impacting the healthfulness of the environment of communities with low income in eleven states before and during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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