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November 12, 2022  
 Ref No/Manuscript ID: 1072370  
 Title: **Fish Scale Rich in Functional Compounds and Peptides: A Potential Nutraceutical to Overcome Undernutrition**

Dear **Prof. Johannes le Coutre** (FCE–Frontiers in Nutrition),  
**Prof. Maurizio Muscaritoli** (SCE–Clinical Nutrition)  
**Dr. Leila Ktari** (Associate and Handling Editor),  
 Frontiers in Nutrition

Dear Dr. Leila Ktari and the 2nd Reviewer, thank you very much for taking the time to handling and review on our manuscript. We greatly appreciate your careful assessment and insightful comments on our manuscript, as well as your recognition of the importance of our study. We have revised extensively and thoroughly, the manuscript with highlights re-submitted. We believe that the manuscript in the revised version is substantially and technically improved as well. This remarkable revision was carried out with our 3 additional co-authors, and the addition of these authors has obtained editorial permission (Melhola Altere–Review Operations Specialist, Editorial Office – Collaborative Peer Review Team, Review Operations Manager: Daniel Houlston). Three additional Authors have contributed substantially and technically in the restructuring and revision of manuscript.

We believe these actions address the deficiencies and comments noted by the 2nd reviewer. We hope that you will be pleased with this revision and that the revised manuscript will better meet the requirements of the ‘Frontiers in Nutrition’ for publication. If any changes need to be made, don’t hesitate to contact or inform us again. Your kind help in this submission is highly appreciated!

Actually, this manuscript is an opinion, not a review, systematic review or comprehensive review. So, we hope that by being revised extensively and thoroughly, this manuscript opinion can be considered further and the limitations as a manuscript opinion can be accepted and understood.  
 Your decision is much appreciated!

Kind Regards,  
**Dr. Netty Salindeho, M.Si**  
**Prof. Dr. Nurpudji A. Taslim, MD., MPH., Sp.GK(K)**  
**Fahrul Nurkolis**

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History Editor (Active) Reviewer 1 (Pending) Reviewer 2 (Finalized) A | I | R | A

**Reviewer 2**  
 Independent review report submitted: 09 Nov 2022  
 Interactive review activated: 12 Nov 2022  
 Review finalized: 13 Nov 2022

**Initial recommendation to the Editor:** Substantial revision is required

The Reviewer has finalized their report and endorsed the publication of this manuscript. The Editor can see Reviewer's comments and any responses from the authors in the tab below.

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**EVALUATION**

**Q 1** Please list your revision requests for the authors and provide your detailed comments, including highlighting limitations and strengths of the opinion. If you have additional comments based on Q2 and Q3 you can add them as well.

**Reviewer 2** | 09 Nov 2022 | 16:13 #1

Dear Editors and Authors,

I have taken the time to carefully and thoroughly review the article "Fish Scale Rich in Functional Compounds and Peptides: A Potential Nutraceutical to Overcome Undernutrition" by Taslim et al. This manuscript seems interesting and the topic of discussion is untapped seafood waste (fish scales). It seems that this opinion manuscript is in line with research topics that are closely related to the SDGs, especially point 14. I see the purpose of this article to inform all researchers to further utilize fish scales, especially to eradicate undernutrition.

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However, I see some concerns that the authors should pay attention to, as follows:

1. Authors must check the English language of the entire manuscript and improve it.
2. Add a little summary or abstract before the introduction, this is useful to increase the readability of the manuscript. No need to be too long, focus on the latest findings.
3. Add three more keywords to improve SEO or readability of this manuscript. Suggestion: Fish scale, Bioactive peptides, nutraceutical, stunting, Growth, Bioactive compounds, Sustainable Development Goal 14: Life Below Water, undernutrition
4. Lines 23–24, please provide appropriate citations, because the authors cite the data.
5. Line 72–74, Please adjust the title.
6. Line 82, please change snacks with meals.
7. Line 75, part 2 Fish scale, Please shorten and delete the part that is not related to the use of fish scale as food. For example, lines 98–104 discuss tissue engineering, this can be deleted, because it is far from being discussed.
8. Line 166, please change stunting to undernutrition.
9. Line 168–169, "Abundant fish scales, which are now a problem of environmental pollution, can be utilized as functional food products through various technologies and methods." it will be more rigorous if you add sentences related to the SDGs point 14 program.
10. The author asks the author to recreate the image with a commensurate and neat font.
12. References must be replaced with the latest (> 2010)  
"Benson, T. and Shekar, M., 2006. Trends and issues in child undernutrition. Disease and Mortality in Sub-Saharan Africa. 2nd edition."

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**RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS**

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Dear **Prof. Johannes le Coutre** (FCE–Frontiers in Nutrition),  
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**Dr. Leila Ktari** (Associate and Handling Editor),  
Frontiers in Nutrition

Dear Dr. Leila Ktari and the 2nd Reviewer, thank you very much for taking the time to handling and review on our manuscript. We greatly appreciate your careful assessment and insightful comments on our manuscript, as well as your recognition of the importance of our study. We have revised extensively and thoroughly, the manuscript with highlights re–submitted. We believe that the manuscript in the revised version is substantially and technically improved as well. This remarkable revision was carried out with our 3 additional co–authors, and the addition of these authors has obtained editorial permission (Melhola Altere–Review Operations Specialist, Editorial Office – Collaborative Peer Review Team, Review Operations Manager: Daniel Houlston). Three additional Authors have contributed substantially and technically in the restructuring and revision of manuscript. Please find below a point–by–point response to the reviewer comments and clarify the important points of your main concerns.

**Reviewer's Comments:**  
I have taken the time to carefully and thoroughly review the article "Fish Scale Rich in Functional Compounds and Peptides: A Potential Nutraceutical to Overcome Undernutrition" by Taslim et al. This manuscript seems interesting and the topic of discussion is untapped seafood waste (fish scales). It seems that this opinion manuscript is in line with research topics that are closely related to the SDGs, especially point 14. I see the purpose of this article to inform all researchers to further utilize fish scales, especially to eradicate undernutrition.  
**# Thank you, we have revised the manuscript. We appreciate your input.**

However, I see some concerns that the authors should pay attention to, as follows:

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However, I see some concerns that the authors should pay attention to, as follows:

1. Authors must check the English language of the entire manuscript and improve it.  
**# Thank you, we have rewritten and improved the English in all parts of the manuscript. We appreciate your input.**
2. Add a little summary or abstract before the introduction, this is useful to increase the readability of the manuscript. No need to be too long, focus on the latest findings.  
**# Thank you for your concern. However, we have searched before about the criterion of opinion paper and abstract section is not mandatory.**
3. Add three more keywords to improve the SEO or readability of this manuscript. Suggestion: Fish Scale, Bioactive Peptides, Nutraceutical, Stunting, Growth, Bioactive Compounds, Sustainable Development Goal 14: Life Below Water, Undernutrition  
**# Thank you for your suggestions which may improve the readability of our manuscript. We have incorporated some of the suggested keywords into our manuscript, but we consider SDG 14 (Life Below Water) would not be appropriate as our keywords, especially since we don't mention SDG 14 in our manuscript. We appreciate your input.**
4. Line 23–24, please provide appropriate citations, because the authors cite the data.  
**# We appreciate your input from clearly spotting this. We have added the appropriate citation.**
5. Line 72–74, please adjust the title.  
**# Thank you, we have adjusted the wording in this sentence. We appreciate your input.**
6. Line 82, please change snacks with meals.  
**# We have replaced snacks with "meals".**
7. Line 75, part 2 fish scale, please shorten and delete the part that is not related to the use of fish scale as

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7. Line 75, part 2 fish scale, please shorten and delete the part that is not related to the use of fish scale as food. For example, lines 98–104 discuss tissue engineering, this can be deleted because it is far from being discussed.  
**# Thank you for your concern regarding this matter. In this section, we try to elaborate on the functional compounds in fish scale in a broader aspect (general). However, we understand your point in this section. Therefore, we have tried to shorten and make this section more concise. We hope you can understand our reason for this matter.**
8. Line 166, please change stunting to undernutrition.  
**# We have replaced stunting with "undernutrition".**
9. Line 168–169, "Abundant fish scales, which are now a problem of environmental pollution, can be utilized as functional food products through various technologies and methods." it will be more rigorous if you add sentences related to the SDGs point 14 programs.  
**# Thank you for your constructive input. We have rewritten this section.**
10. The author asks the author to recreate the image with a commensurate and neat font.  
**# Thank you for your constructive input. We have revised this figure.**
11. References must be replaced with the latest (> 2010). "Benson, T. and Shekar, M., 2006. Trends and issues in child undernutrition. Disease and Mortality in Sub-Saharan Africa. 2nd edition."  
**# Thank you, we have replaced the references with more recent ones. We appreciate your input.**
12. Give the DOI number of each bibliography that has a DOI.  
**# We have added the DOI of each reference. We appreciate your input.**

I don't think there is any controversial theme or any potential commercial conflicts of interest. in this manuscript. Therefore, I hope to be able to immediately re-evaluate this manuscript after substantial revisions.

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will be pleased with this revision and that the revised manuscript will better meet the requirements of the 'Frontiers in Nutrition' for publication. If any changes need to be made, don't hesitate to contact or inform us again.

Your kind help in this submission is highly appreciated!


Actually, this manuscript is an opinion, not a review, systematic review or comprehensive review. So, we hope that by being revised extensively and thoroughly, this manuscript opinion can be considered further and the limitations as a manuscript opinion can be accepted and understood.

Your decision is much appreciated!

Kind Regards,  
**Dr. Netty Salindeho, M.Si**  
**Prof. Dr. Nurpudji A. Taslim, MD., MPH., Sp.GK(K)**  
**Fahrul Nurkolis**

[Review supporting file - 425623](#)

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 **Reviewer 2** | 13 Nov 2022 | 08:28 #3

Dear Editor,

I have gone through the revised manuscript and found that the manuscript has been revised according to reviewer comments. It seems that in the current version it is better and the rigor is improved. However, there are some minor issues that the writer needs to solve immediately.

1. Please include proof of the license from the Biorender that you are using, attach it in the supporting file. I think this will be needed by the publisher.
2. Line 196 ".Shigella, Vibrio, Salmonella, Campylobacter,..." That's not a species name that should be italicized. So don't italicize.

I see there is an addition of author to authorships. By checking the attached documents and signed by all authors. So I have checked that the document complies with the Frontiers Guideline.

Best regards

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Dear Reviewer,

Thank you very much for taking the time to re-review on our revised manuscript.

We greatly appreciate your careful assessment and insightful comments on our manuscript, as well as your recognition of the importance of our study.

**#I have attached the proof in the next revision and it is also attached in this comment file (Please find the attachment).**


**#Furthermore, we have revised the manuscript according to your recent comments.**

Thank you, your kind help is much appreciated!

Kind Regards,  
**Dr. Netty Salindeho, M.Si**  
**Prof. Dr. Nurpudji A. Taslim, MD., MPH., Sp.GK(K)**  
**Fahrul Nurkolis**

[Review supporting file - 425841](#)

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 **Reviewer 2** | 13 Nov 2022 | 10:50 #5

Dear Editor,

Now, the manuscript article met the standard of journal article publication. There's no doubt that the quality of the manuscript is greatly improved. Therefore, I recommend acceptance or publication of this article.

Cheers,

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Kotak Masuk (3.667) - fahrul.nurkolis.mail@gmail.com... My Frontiers Frontiers (18) WhatsApp

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**EVALUATION**

**Q 1** Please list your revision requests for the authors and provide your detailed comments, including highlighting limitations and strengths of the opinion. If you have additional comments based on Q2 and Q3 you can add them as well.

Reviewer 1 | 19 Nov 2022 | 05:59 #1

The opinion article presents an overview of the Fish Scale Rich in Functional Compounds and Peptides: A Potential Nutraceutical to Overcome Undernutrition. Noteworthy, it is a good article with sufficient information for the readers. The manuscript meets the journal criteria and holds priority as a topic of the reader's interest. The topic of your manuscript sounds interesting and has an appropriate design. Overall information presented in this article provides a good foundation for future studies, and I approve its publication after some suggestions.

Line 62-63: rewritten as "Mass quantities of fish waste are produced annually during fish processing, where fish waste, including fish scales, is discarded."

Line 75: "Medical" replaced with "medicine"

Line 132-134: remove "that are" and replace "the breakage of" with "breaking"

Line 138-139: should rewrite as "Fish-based gelatin also encourages tissue regeneration, raising bone marrow density and offering an alternate benefit for osteoporosis patients."

Line 143-144: "can be achieved by simple and inexpensive methods" rewritten as "simple and inexpensive methods can achieve."

My overall concern for this is language improvement. Authors should check thoroughly; still, many mistakes are present, as I mentioned above.

**Q 2 Check List**

Reviewer 1 | 19 Nov 2022 | 05:59 #1

a. Is the quality of the figures and tables satisfactory?  
- Yes

b. Does the reference list cover the relevant literature adequately and in an unbiased manner?  
- Yes

c. Does this manuscript refer only to published data? (unpublished or original data is not allowed for this article type)  
- Yes

d. Is the opinion supported by evidence?  
- Yes

**QUALITY ASSESSMENT**

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Kotak Masuk (3.667) - fahrul.nurkolis.mail@gmail.com... My Frontiers Frontiers (18) WhatsApp

ABOUT JOURNALS RESEARCH TOPICS ARTICLES SUBMIT

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- Yes

c. Does this manuscript refer only to published data? (unpublished or original data is not allowed for this article type)  
- Yes

d. Is the opinion supported by evidence?  
- Yes

**QUALITY ASSESSMENT**

<b>Q 3</b> Rigor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Q 4</b> Quality of the writing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Q 5</b> Overall quality of the content	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Q 6</b> Interest to a general audience	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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