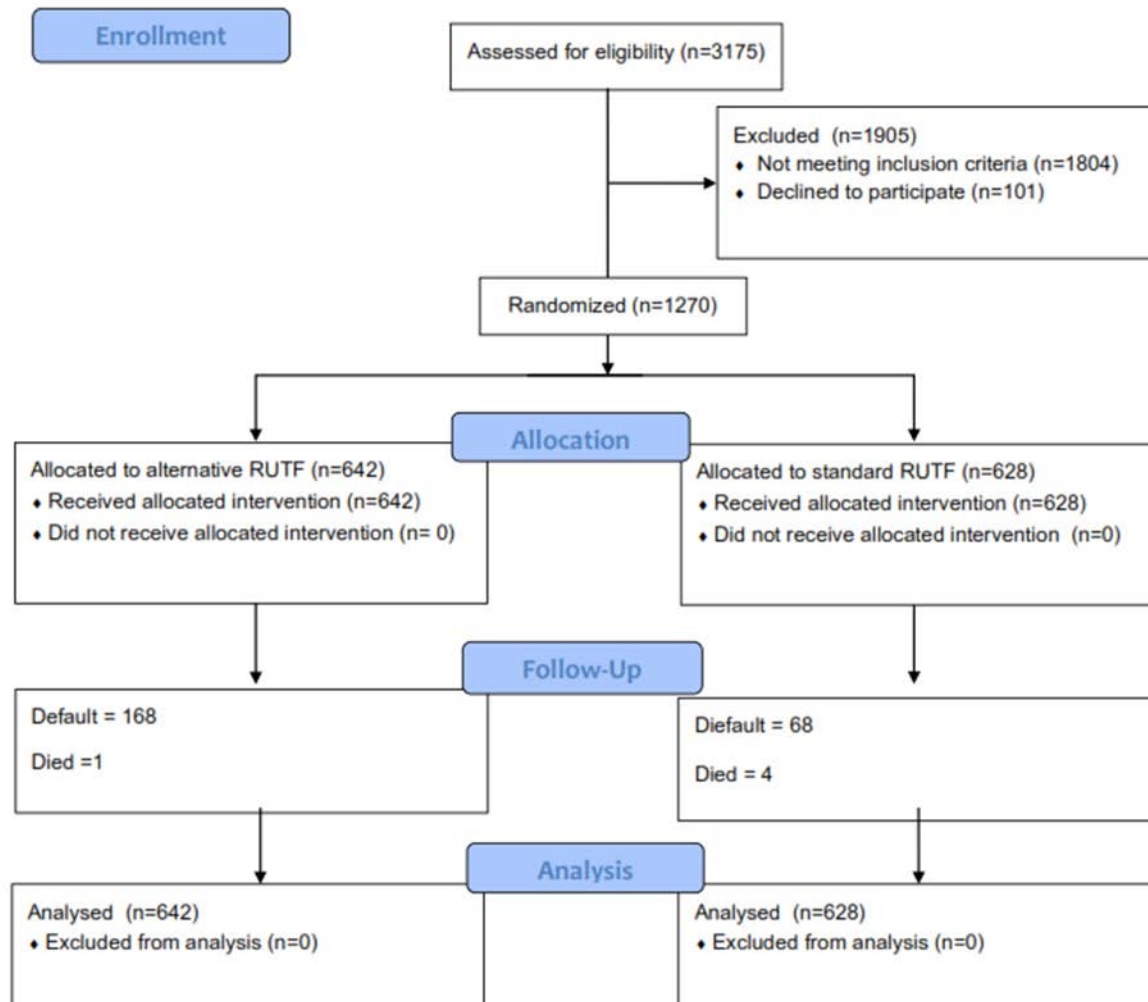


PARTICIPANT FLOW

Figure 1. CONSORT Flow Diagram



BASELINE CHARACTERISTICS

TABLE 1: Characteristics of study children on enrolment¹

	Severe Acute Malnutrition		Moderate Acute Malnutrition	
Characteristic	A-RUTF	S-RUTF	A-RUTF	S-RUTF
Participants, <i>n</i>	199	202	443	426
Sex				
Male	88 (44.2)	94 (46.5)	189 (42.7)	163 (38.3)
Female	111 (55.8)	108 (53.5)	254 (57.3)	263 (61.7)
Age, months	14.38 ± 8.0	13.25 ± 7.6	15.79 ± 9.3	13.89 ± 7.2
MUAC, cm	11.14 ± 0.9	11.0 ± 0.8	12.21 ± 0.4	12.19 ± 0.4
Weight, kg	6.28 ± 1.3	6.12 ± 1.2	7.34 ± 1.3	7.19 ± 1.2
Length, cm	69.8 ± 7.5	68.5 ± 6.6	72.4 ± 7.2	71.2 ± 6.6
Weight-for-length, z-score	-3.16 ± 0.83	-3.07 ± 0.9	-2.08 ± 0.6	-1.97 ± 0.6
Length-for-age, z-score	-2.56 ± 1.4	-2.64 ± 1.4	-1.98 ± 1.2	-1.80 ± 1.1
Weight-for-age, z-score	-3.65 ± 0.9	-3.64 ± 1.0	-2.59 ± 0.7	-2.41 ± 0.9

¹ Values expressed as number (%) or mean ± SD

A-RUTF, alternative ready-to-use therapeutic food; S-RUTF, standard RUTF

OUTCOME MEASURES

TABLE 2: Comparison of outcomes between assigned treatment food for Ghanaian children with Severe Acute Malnutrition and Moderate Acute Malnutrition¹

Outcome	Alternative RUTF	Standard RUTF	<i>P</i> -Value ²
All study participants	<i>n</i> =642	<i>n</i> =628	
Default ³	116 (18)	68 (11)	< 0.001
Death	1 (0.2)	4 (0.6)	0.210
Recovered	516 (80)	554 (88)	< 0.00
Remained malnourished	9 (1.4)	2 (0.3)	0.06
Rate of weight gain ⁴ , g·kg ⁻¹ ·d ⁻¹	1.88 ± 1.8	2.04 ± 2.0	0.309
Rate of MUAC gain ⁴ , mm/day	0.16 ± 0.2	0.18 ± 0.2	0.040
Severe Acute Malnutrition	<i>n</i> =199	<i>n</i> =202	
Default	60 (30.1)	41 (20.3)	0.028
Death	1 (0.5)	3 (1.5)	0.623
Recovered	130 (65.3)	156 (77.2)	0.011
Remained malnourished	8 (4.0)	2 (1.0)	0.060
Rate of weight gain ³ , g·kg ⁻¹ ·d ⁻¹	2.40 ± 2.4	2.90 ± 2.6	0.043
Rate of MUAC gain ³ , mm/day	0.20 ± 0.2	0.25 ± 0.2	0.047
Moderate Acute Malnutrition	<i>n</i> =443	<i>n</i> =426	
Default	56 (12.6)	27 (6.3)	0.002
Death	0 (0)	1 (0.2)	1.0
Recovered	386 (87.1)	398 (93.4)	0.003
Remained malnourished	1 (0.2)	0 (0)	1.0
Rate of weight gain ³ , g·kg ⁻¹ ·d ⁻¹	1.66 ± 1.5	1.61 ± 1.5	0.621
Rate of MUAC gain ³ , mm/day	0.13 ± 0.2	0.14 ± 0.17	0.290

¹Values expressed as number (%) or mean ± SD

²Statistical comparisons made using Student's *t*-test for continuous parameters and Fisher's Exact Test for categorical parameters

³Defaults were treated as unrecovered in the calculation of recovery rates

⁴Calculated for the first 4 weeks of treatment

ADVERSE EVENTS

There were no adverse events associated with the trial.