Author's response to reviews

Title: Delivery of maternal health care in Indigenous primary care services: baseline data for an ongoing quality improvement initiative

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Dear Editor,

Thank you for the opportunity to improve our manuscript. We have addressed the issues raised by Referee 2, by including the following statement in paragraph 6 of the Discussion:

It should be noted that centres in this study do not provide birthing services; local policies currently require women in remote areas to be transferred into regional hospitals for birthing from 36 weeks gestation. Therefore, attempts to improve the continuity of care in this setting will require better integration of services or a redesign of services to support community-based services across the spectrum of maternity care. This was acknowledged in the recent report of the Australian Maternity Services Review [32], which also recognised the importance of provision of services to Indigenous women that accommodate cultural beliefs about childbirth, including in some communities, a preference for 'birthing on country'.

We hope this meets with your satisfaction.