Author's response to reviews

Title: Determinants of exclusive breast feeding in Nigeria

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Author's response to reviews: see over
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Title of MS: Determinates of exclusive breastfeeding in Nigeria
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General
The usual way to measure an exclusive rate is at a certain point in time, such as 2 months, 4 months, 6 months. Similarly I am confused by the referral to recommended exclusive rates from the WHO., and please reword it - I am pretty sure the wording should be "exclusive AT 6 months" not in children UNDER 6 months because that could refer to any age between Day 1 and 6 month birthday. Similarly, please give us the rate among children in your study AT 6 months in the abstract, not "younger than" 6 months.

We disagreed with the reviewer on this issue and no change made to the manuscript (read and see reference below):

Exclusive breastfeeding under 6 months: Proportion of infants 0–5 months of age who are fed exclusively with breast milk (WHO, 2008),

On page 6 of the reference below, the recommended EBF indicators for further disaggregate are for the following age-groups: 0–1 months, 2–3 months, 4–5 months and 0–3 months” not 2 months, 4 month and, 6 months as indicated by the reviewer.

Reference
http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2008/9789241596664_eng.pdf

Abstract
Background: last line should be “The purpose was really to assess determinants of exclusive breastfeeding which is how the title describes it”

The last line of the background of the abstract has been changed as the reviewer indicates (see below for the change made):

The purpose of this study was to assess the determinants of exclusive breastfeeding in Nigeria

Results: it is not clear what is meant by "EBF rate among children younger than 6 months of age was 16.4%" Do you mean the average breastfeeding rate among all children under 6 months?

Yes and no change made to the manuscript

Background: Paragraph 3 line 4 and paragraph 4 line 5 should be “BFHI” not BHI
Change made as indicated by the reviewer

**Background**: Paragraph 2 line 1 and 6: What country or region does the 13% refer to? Similarly the disease burden cited?

We have clarified these in the background by adding (“in low-income countries” see lines 1&2 and in low-income and middle-income countries see line 6 of paragraph 2 of the manuscript).

**Background**: Please replace this information and these citations with accurate ones referring to this 90% recommendation - The citations 2 and 10 that are used to back up the 90% for Nigeria recommendation seem to link to development of the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative, not to a specific recommendation for Nigeria.

We agreed with reviewer that 90% recommendation of EBF coverage was not recommended specifically to Nigeria rather to all developing countries including Nigeria and we clarified this by adding (“in developing countries”) and another citation (see below) to the background section of the manuscript.

**WHO/UNICEF**: Global action plan for prevention and control of pneumonia (GAPP) 2009.  