Author's response to reviews

Title: Risk factors and a predictive model for under-five mortality in Nigeria: evidence from Demographic and Health Survey, 2008

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Author's response to reviews: see over
September 20, 2011

The Editorial Production Team:

**Re: Risk factors and a predictive model for under-five mortality in Nigeria: evidence from demographic and health survey, 2008**

Thanks for the comments and suggestions. In the following pages we provide a point-by-point response to the comments and suggestions. We have put the comments in bold, with response below each comment.

We would like to thank you in advance for your consideration.

On behalf of the authors,
Sincerely,
Gbenga A. Kayode
1. **Title page**: Please include the email address of each author.

Thanks, we have now include email address of the three authors.

2. **Abstract**: Please expand the background section of your abstract.

Thanks, the background section of the abstract has been expanded:

“Background: Childhood mortality is a prominent public health issue. Globally, mortality in under-five age children is about 9 million deaths per year and 70% are preventable which makes this an important public health problem to investigate. Children in developing countries are 10 times at more likely to die before their fifth birthday compared to those in developed countries. The aim of this study was to determine the risk factors for under-five mortality (U5M) in Nigeria.”

3. **Requesting consent statement**: Please state in the Methods section whether written informed consent for participation in the study was obtained from participants or, where participants are children, a parent or guardian.

We have now clarified this under the method – ethical consideration section: “All study parents gave informed consent before participation and all information was collected confidentially.”

4. **Competing interests**: Manuscripts should include a ‘Competing interests’ section.

This should be placed after the Conclusions/Abbreviations. Please consider the following questions and include a declaration of competing interests in your manuscript:

Thanks, this has been clarified: “The authors declare that they have no competing interests.”

5. **Authors’ contributions section**:

We have also added this to the manuscript:

“GAK was involved in the conception of the study. GAK carried out data extraction. GAK conducted statistical analysis with contributions from VTA and OAU. GAK drafted
the paper with contributions from VTA and OAU. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.”

6. Acknowledgements and Funding section:
We have now added this section:
“The authors are grateful to Measure DHS for providing them with the 2008 Nigeria DHS data. No specific funding was received for this study”