Author's response to reviews

Title: Institutional delivery service utilization in Munisa Woreda, South East Ethiopia: a community based cross-sectional study.

Authors:

Abdella A Abdo (a2ay.ororo@gmail.com)
Abebaw G Worku (gabebaw2worku@gmail.com)
Zelalem B Mengesha (zelalem78@gmail.com)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear editor

We would like to thank you for the comments given to our manuscript. We have incorporated the comments and suggestions given by Amie Wilson to the manuscript.

Regards

Abdella Amano(corresponding author)
Major Comments

1. The family size category different from original <4 or >4, but, <5 or >5 in the second version. Why this happened?

   Response to comment
   1. Important comment, the family size category we used during data analysis was <5 or >5, it was due to typographic error we make it <4 or >4 on the first version of the manuscript. Now we have corrected it as <5 or >5 in the second version.

2. Lack of detailed explanation about the possible biases on the manuscript

   Comment accepted. We have incorporated the following details to the manuscript. Due to its design (cross-sectional that asks respondents to remember information retrospectively), recall bias and interviewer bias are potential sources of bias. We have considered all important scientific procedures to minimize potential biases. From the outset, our study includes women who gave birth in the past one year to reduce recall bias. Supervision, pretest of the data collection tool, training for data collectors were among the important procedures done to minimize the possibility of bias. Wide confidence intervals observed in some of the variables are due to the calculation of the intervals by the sample size calculated for the prevalence.

Minor comments

1. Do you mean in many SSA countries show less than 1% or the whole of SSA, as progress in SSA has been 1.7%

   Responses
   Important comment. We have corrected on the manuscript that the recent annual reduction of maternal mortality
2. Omission of the word 'given' between 'have' and 'birth'
   Comment incorporated

3. Helpful to have the relevant variables in brackets after it is mentioned on line 9 to clarify this to the reader.
   Comment accepted. Important variables like age, residence, ethnicity, religion, marital status, educational status, occupational status, distance from the health center, parity, family size, ANC and place of delivery are incorporated to the specified place.

4. I think it would be helpful to the reader for them to know that they are valid categories used within the context, perhaps the authors could mention in the manuscript that they are known classification used within the DHS.
   Comment considered. We have added the sentence `Valid categories are used for the variables used in the context from EDHS and other published literatures` to the manuscript.

for sub Saharan Africa is 1.7%