Author's response to reviews

Title: Association between social support and place of delivery: a cross-sectional study in Kericho, western Kenya

Authors:

Mayo Ono (mayonoko@gmail.com)
Akiko Matsuyama (akikomat@nagasaki-u.ac.jp)
Mohamed Karama (mhmdkarama@yahoo.com)
Sumihisa Honda (honda@nagasaki-u.ac.jp)

Version: 3 Date: 2 September 2013

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor and reviewers,

Thank you for your useful comments and suggestions on the structure of our manuscript. We have modified the manuscript accordingly, and detailed corrections are listed below:

Editor’s comment:
1) Questionnaire - Please include a copy of the questionnaire used in your study as an additional file. Alternatively, if the questionnaire was previously published, please cite it appropriately.
   ✓ We added the questionnaire in additional file. (See underline on page 9)

Reviewer’s comments:
Referee 1
1) Background section has a lot of information and repetitions especially on the cited literature.
   ✓ According to the comment, we thoroughly reviewed the paper for the purpose of brevity, and rephrased and deleted some sentences (See underlines on page 5 and 7)

2) In the results, the author should specify what percentage of respondents had some primary school education and not simply saying “most”.
   ✓ On page 12, we rephrased “Most of respondents” to “Around 86% of respondents”. (See underline)

3) The conclusion is poor, the authors did not recommend practical actions related to social support geared to improved health facility delivery.
   ✓ According to the comment, we added some sentences of recommendations for practical actions (See underlines on page 20).

Referee 2
1) Primigravidity was among the factors influencing health facility delivery, however this was not included in the text.
   ✓ We added “Primiparae (P < 0.001)” on page 13. (See underline)

2) Table 3 showed that married women were more likely to deliver at health facilities and not as indicated “less likely”.

2nd September 2013

<BMCPregnancy & Childbirth>

<Association between social support and place of delivery: a cross-sectional study in Kericho, western Kenya.> (MS: 5477421819858745)

Dear Editor and reviewers,

Thank you for your useful comments and suggestions on the structure of our manuscript. We have modified the manuscript accordingly, and detailed corrections are listed below:

Editor’s comment:
1) Questionnaire - Please include a copy of the questionnaire used in your study as an additional file. Alternatively, if the questionnaire was previously published, please cite it appropriately.
   ✓ We added the questionnaire in additional file. (See underline on page 9)

Reviewer’s comments:
Referee 1
1) Background section has a lot of information and repetitions especially on the cited literature.
   ✓ According to the comment, we thoroughly reviewed the paper for the purpose of brevity, and rephrased and deleted some sentences (See underlines on page 5 and 7)

2) In the results, the author should specify what percentage of respondents had some primary school education and not simply saying “most”.
   ✓ On page 12, we rephrased “Most of respondents” to “Around 86% of respondents”. (See underline)

3) The conclusion is poor, the authors did not recommend practical actions related to social support geared to improved health facility delivery.
   ✓ According to the comment, we added some sentences of recommendations for practical actions (See underlines on page 20).

Referee 2
1) Primigravidity was among the factors influencing health facility delivery, however this was not included in the text.
   ✓ We added “Primiparae (P < 0.001)” on page 13. (See underline)

2) Table 3 showed that married women were more likely to deliver at health facilities and not as indicated “less likely”.

2nd September 2013

<BMCPregnancy & Childbirth>

<Association between social support and place of delivery: a cross-sectional study in Kericho, western Kenya.> (MS: 5477421819858745)
✓ It was indicated that “married women whose husbands supported them in farming and whose neighbors helped them fetching water were less likely to deliver at health facilities”. (See underline on page 13)

3) It is difficult to synthesize the results which are being displayed in Table 3 and Table 4, since there are two different dependent variables in one table.
   ✓ We modified tables in portrait format on page 30 and 31. I would like to express associations between support for daily tasks (what kinds of support and by whom) and place of delivery among married or unmarried women, resulted in creating these types of tables.

Others:
1) Title page should be contained at minimum, the names, institutions, countries and email addresses of all authors, and the full postal address of the submitting author.
   ✓ We provided the names, institutions, countries and email addresses of all authors, and the full postal address of the submitting author in the manuscript. We modified forms in accordance with the sample article’s title page. (See underlines)
   ✓ We deleted unnecessary capitalization in a title. (See underlines)

2) Acronyms should be used properly.
   ✓ On page 8 in methods, we added “Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)” and “…Health and Development Service (HANDS)”. (See underlines)
   ✓ On page 21 in Acknowledgments, we rephrased “Japan International Cooperation Agency” and “Health and Development Service’ to “JICA” and “HANDS”.

3) The number of people should be written properly.
   ✓ On page 8 in methods, we corrected “43,393 people” to “43,493 people”. (See underline)

4) Authors’ contributions
   ✓ We added this sentence “All authors read and approved the final manuscript”. (See underline on page 21)

5) Authors’ information-You may choose to use this section.
   ✓ We deleted this section.

The manuscript has been resubmitted to your journal. We look forward to your positive response.

Sincerely,
Mayo Ono

Mayo Ono
Nagasaki University Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
1-12-4 Sakamoto, Nagasaki 852-8523, Japan
Tel: +81-95-819-7945
Fax: +81-95-819-7907
E-mail: mayonoko@gmail.com