Author's response to reviews

Title: The role of Traditional Birth Attendants in urban and rural Tanzania: a mixed-methods study

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To the editors of
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Research article: The role of Traditional Birth Attendants in urban and rural Tanzania: a mixed-methods study by Constanze D Pfeiffer and Rosemarie Mwaipopo submitted to BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth

Dear Joselito Acosta,
Dear Chief Editor,

We thank you for your interest in our manuscript, and for providing constructive and helpful comments and suggestions. We have now revised our manuscript in light of your comments. Specifically, the method section has been revised and a section on ethical considerations has been added. Furthermore, we ensured that our revised manuscript conforms to the style of your journal.

In order to make it easier for you to follow our changes we highlighted all changes in yellow.

I am delighted to submit on behalf of my co-author our point-by-point response to your comments:

Responses to the comments of the editor:

1./2. Ethics statement and consent statement:

Since we believe that ethical issues are crucial we thank the editor for this valuable comment. We have added a new paragraph on ethical considerations to the method section (see revised manuscript: page 10) in order to provide the required information. The study received ethical clearance (Ref. No: AB3/3(B)) from the review board at the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) on behalf of the Tanzanian Commission of Science and Technology (COSTECH). The study was also authorized by the district coordinators of Reproductive-and-Child-Health (RCH). All study participants provided written informed consent after having been explained the purpose of the study and informed of their right to withdraw from the study at any time. We stated in the Methods section that written informed consent for participation in the study was obtained from participants.
3. Questionnaire/data collection tools:

→ We attached the data collection tools as Additional Files (see also our citation in the methods section).

We would like to thank you for the helpful comments. We are confident that our revision of the manuscript allowed us to improve its overall quality, and we would be delighted if the editors and reviewers would reconsider the current version for publication in BMC Pregnancy and Child Birth.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Constanze Pfeiffer