Author’s response to reviews

Title: Reasons for performing a caesarean section in public hospitals in rural Bangladesh - a mixed methods study

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are pleased to submit our manuscript “Reasons for performing a caesarean section (CS) in public hospitals in rural Bangladesh – a mixed methods study” for consideration in BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth. In this mixed method study, we map the indication for cesearean section in Bangladesh and the factors and practices that influence this decision. In the majority of cases, factors other than evidence based practice or the presence of a clear medical indication influence providers’ decision to perform both elective and emergency CS in public hospitals in Bangladesh.

Performing a CS more frequently for cases where this is not really indicated constitutes an unnecessary strain on existing and already limited resources. Avoiding “unnecessary” CS would perhaps free resources and could contribute to making CS accessible to those who really need this intervention as part of the emergency obstetric and newborn care package that needs to be available 24/7 to manage potentially life threatening complications in both women and newborn babies.

We have added the section outlining the authors’ contributions and would be grateful if you would consider the manuscript for publication in your journal and look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

Dr Mamuda Aminu

on behalf of the authors