Author’s response to reviews

Title: First Look: A Cluster-randomized trial of ultrasound to improve pregnancy outcomes in low income country settings

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Author’s response to reviews:

January 3, 2014

Dear Editor,

We are pleased to submit the requested documentation to support the study protocol manuscript. Additionally, we have responded to the requested information below.

Sincerely,
1. Ethical and Funding Approval Documentation

Before we can proceed with your submission, can you please forward copies of all ethical approval and funding approval for our records. These documents should be sent as email attachments to the following email address, BMCSeriesEditorial@biomedcentral.com. Please DO NOT upload these documents as additional files in the submission system. If your documents are not in English, please could you provide translated versions of the relevant parts. These should be endorsed and signed by a contactable person at the institution. Please also include the original documents. Can you please confirm in your cover letter that you have forwarded the requested documentation to

These approvals were forwarded to the email: BMCSeriesEditorial@biomedcentral.com.

2. Funding

A study is considered to be externally funded if the authors have been awarded a grant for the study by a major funding body (e.g. governmental funding/award from a charitable foundation). If a study has not received external funding, then the study protocol will be sent for peer-review with a member of our Editorial Board. If a study has received funding/assistance from a commercial organization, this should be clearly stated in the 'competing interests' section of your manuscript, and the study protocol will be sent for peer-review by a member of our Editorial Board. Can you please confirm whether your study protocol has undergone peer-review by the funding body.

The study protocol was peer-reviewed by both the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the U.S. National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

3. Study status

The protocol must be for a study that is ongoing. An ‘ongoing’ study is defined as one where the investigators are still collecting, or analyzing data. Can you please confirm what stage your study is currently at.

The initial training was completed and the trial is just starting with a pilot period now and the first site expected to enrol by February 2014.

4. Related Articles

Can you please clarify whether any publications containing the results of this study have already been published or submitted to any journal. If so, can you
please provide a list of the related articles.

We have not submitted any publications with any data related to this trial.