Author's response to reviews

Title: Use of antenatal services and delivery care in Entebbe, Uganda: a community based survey

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Dr da-Silva,

Re: MS: 1372661644134415 - Use of antenatal services and delivery care in Entebbe, Uganda: a community based survey

Thank you for your interest in our work and for forwarding on these informative reviewers comments. We are pleased to submit a second revised version in keeping with your recommendations and our responses to your reviewer’s comments are itemised below. In addition the manuscript has been copyedited to ensure a high standard of written English throughout.

Yours sincerely
Carolyn Tann

Reviewer 1: William Stones

Major compulsory revisions: none requested

Minor essential revisions
1. The text has been thoroughly checked for text glitches and any found have been corrected including the two quoted by the reviewer.

2. ‘Foetus’ has been changed to ‘fetus’ throughout

3. Primigravida/multigravidae has been left throughout because its use in the text pertains to the care received antenatally i.e. at the time of pregnancy. Because we have looked at associations that relate to pregnancy and delivery, and because not all pregnancies necessarily ended with the birth of a live infant, we have used gravida throughout our analysis. It is common for women to make different care choices during their first pregnancy when compared to subsequent ones and we were interested to look for any effect that this may be having on the quality of care that they receive. In fact our study actually shows that whilst the reported quality of antenatal care received was no different, women in subsequent pregnancies reported significantly better postnatal practices when compared to those in their first.

Discretionary revisions
1. This reviewer would rather see OR and CIs, than p values, for the data not shown in the tables.

The relevant paragraph has now been revised as follows:

‘For both antenatal and delivery care there were associations between personal and socioeconomic characteristics and care setting. For antenatal care, multigravidae were more likely to attend Entebbe Hospital, compared to other facilities (OR 1.85, 95%Confidence Interval (CI) 1.13-3.00) and better-
educated mothers were more likely to go to a private hospital (OR 3.32, 95%CI 1.84-6.00). At delivery, primigravidae were more likely to attend another government hospital (outside the Entebbe area) (OR 2.24, 95%CI 1.12-4.46) and less educated, poorer mothers were more likely to have a TBA or no trained assistant (for less education: OR 3.07, 95%CI 1.49-6.31; for measures of household wealth: lack of electricity OR 3.60, 95%CI 2.04-6.37; ownership of fewer items OR 3.47, 95%CI 1.51-7.97; crowded household OR 2.71, 95%CI 1.42-5.16).'

2. The abstract comment on ‘four or more visits’ has been changed to ‘four visits’.

**Reviewer 2: Jennifer Moodley**

**Major compulsory revisions:** none requested

**Minor essential revisions**

1. The last line on page 7 correctly reads ‘(figure 2a)’ because the comment it relates to is the overall antenatal score by year (fig 2a) not to each individual service by year (figure 3b). A comment on each individual service by year follows (page 8, first line).

**Reviewer 3: Albrecht Jahn**

No requested revisions