Dear Editor,

We send the revised article “Traditional beliefs and practices in the postpartum period in Fujian province, China: a qualitative study”. We have revised the article according to the comments sent by the reviewers on 19 April 2007. The table below details the comments made by the reviewers and our responses to the comments. All the authors have contributed to the revised manuscript.

**Responses to reviewers’ comments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reviewer: Debra Creedy</th>
<th>Authors response</th>
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<td>Minor essential revisions</td>
<td>Authors response</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Edit the paper to remove unnecessary words (E.g. sometimes it is not necessary to include &quot;the&quot;).</td>
<td>We have edited the paper.</td>
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<td>2. The ethics committee should be the &quot;human&quot; research ethics committee</td>
<td>We have included “human research ethics committee” in the methods section.</td>
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<td>3. Clarify the term &quot;grandmother&quot; - I think this usually refers to the mother's mother as opposed to the infant's grandmother.</td>
<td>The term grandmother has been clarified.</td>
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<td>4. Implications for future practice and research could include further exploration of the knowledge base of health practitioners towards breastfeeding. I was interested in their acceptance of &quot;milk powder&quot; and simplistic rationale given for the harmful effects of honeysuckle. Reference to WHO goals of 6 months exclusive breastfeeding should be highlighted.</td>
<td>We agree and we have included exploration of knowledge base of health practitioners towards breastfeeding as an important area for further research. A reference to the recommendation of exclusive breastfeeding for 6 months by WHO has been included. The references have been altered accordingly.</td>
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<td>5. Table 3 could be further enhanced with specific comments about explanations - for example, instead of &quot;helps&quot; lactating women - the comment could reflect &quot;provides adequate nutrients for lactation”</td>
<td>We have added some more detailed explanations of the effects of the actual behaviour on health.</td>
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Please send all correspondence to Joanna Raven.

Yours sincerely,
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