Author's response to reviews

**Title:** Factors associated with physical growth of children during the first two years of life in rural and urban areas of Vietnam

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Factors associated with physical growth of children during the first two years of life in rural and urban areas of Vietnam

To: Editorial office, BMC Pediatrics

Dear Sirs, Madams

The mentioned paper was resubmitted to BMC Paediatrics on June 12rd, 2013. The manuscript has now been revised according to the referee comments and is hereby returned for your renewed consideration.

I would like to give a point- by- point response to the minor compulsory revisions requested by Referee JOSEPHAT CHINAWA:

1. Redefining exclusive breastfeeding has been done
2. We have added some discussion about explanation of relations between breast feeding, weight gain and obesity later in life
3. A comment on the traditional view that boys are more important than girls and the belief that formula feeding is better than breastfeeding has been added.

4. The statement ‘The most common causes of illness are diarrhea and acute respiratory infection was observed in several studies’ has been referenced.

5. We leave out the discussion about illness and length since we are not able to distinguish between chronic and acute illness.

6. We do not have the information about gestational age by ultrasound.

We are grateful for the reviewer’s comments and hope that you will find the changes satisfactory.

Looking forward to hear from you soon.

Yours sincerely,

Huong Nguyen Thu