Author's response to reviews

Title: Efficiency of red cell distribution width in identification of children aged 1-3 years with iron deficiency anemia against traditional hematological markers

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Author's response to reviews: see over
To,

The Editor

BMC Pediatrics

BioMed Central

United Kingdom

Subject: Submission of Manuscript for Publication

Dear Sir/Mam,

Thanks for the mail with reviewers comments to our manuscript entitled ‘MS: 1367474174109489 Efficiency of red cell distribution width in identification of children aged 1-3 years with iron deficiency anemia against traditional hematological markers’ and reply comments. We are hereby submitting the revised manuscript with all the suggestions incorporated. Please find below response to Associate Editor Comments.

We do not have any conflict of interest or financial interest. All authors have approved the manuscript and agree with its submission to BMC Pediatrics.

With thanks and regards

Yours truly,

(Dr. Sunil Sazawal)

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Reply to Associate Editor Comments.
"Data presented do not support the conclusion stated in the abstract and also in the results section further down (In Indian setting, RDW 20% identifies iron deficient anemic children without need for further investigation and RDW of 16-20% identifies potential iron deficiency anemia needing further investigation.) It should be withdrawn unless specific data is included to support it. I recommend sticking to the cut-off points described in the text and also in the table and as conclusion in the abstract, I would suggest telling the readers that in India and possibly in similar settings, the combination of Hb < ou = to 10.0 and RDW > 15% allow for identification of children 1-3 yrs with IDA."

Response: We agree with the Associate Editor’s comments regarding the conclusion. We have modified the conclusion in the abstract section and main text as per the suggestion. We have edited the discussion wherever needed to align with the conclusion and findings.