Author's response to reviews

Title: Please understand when I cry out in pain: women's accounts of maternity services during labour and delivery in Ghana

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Version: 5 Date: 7 December 2005

Author's response to reviews: see over
7th December 2005

BMC Public Health,  
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Dear Editor,

Re: Please understand when I cry out in pain: women’s accounts of maternity services during labour and delivery in Ghana

I am pleased to re-submit the manuscript entitled "Please understand when I cry out in pain: women’s accounts of maternity services during labour and delivery in Ghana". The manuscript has been revised in response to the final formatting requirements of BioMed Central and to a co-authors point regarding confidentiality. Minor grammatical edits have also been made. Details of the final changes, with an indication of how and where the change has been made in the manuscript, are given overleaf.

We have checked the manuscript is prepared in the format required of your journal and submitted using your web-based system. No conflict of interest is anticipated by any of the authors. Sources of funding for the work are acknowledged in the manuscript. The article has not already been published and is not being considered for publication elsewhere.

Yours sincerely

Lucia D’Ambruoso

Attached: Point-by-point description of final changes
Point-by-point description of final changes
7th December 2005

Formatting requests

- Page 2 – the keywords section has been removed.
- Page 24 - the figure legends and tables have been moved to after the references.

Minor edits

- Page 2, paragraph 4 – “…interventions to improve delivery care should not be directed only…”, changed to “…interventions to improve delivery care should not only be directed…”.
- Page 3, paragraph 1 – “…in global health agendas”, changed to “…on global health agendas”.
- Page 3, paragraph 3 – “…the services…are often not of sufficient quality”, changed to “…the services…are often of insufficient quality”.
- Page 4, paragraph 3 – the abbreviation GNP has been expanded. 2nd sentence reads “Ghana…has a gross national product (GNP)…”.
- Page 6, paragraph 4 – “A tape recorder was used to tape…”, changed to “A tape recorder was used to record…”.
- Page 9, paragraph 2 – “where women had had previous deliveries”, changed to “ where women had previous deliveries”.
- Page 15, paragraph 4 – “…more conducive to change if it was fed back…”, changed to “…more conducive to change if fed back…”.
- Page 16, paragraph 3 – the abbreviations WHO, FIGO and ICM have been expanded. The fourth sentence now reads “International organisations such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO) and the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) have defined a minimum set of skills for providers”.
- Page 17, paragraph 2 – “There is acknowledgement that general health system improvements that address the cost of care…”, changed to “There is acknowledgement that general health system improvements addressing the cost of care…”.
- Page 17, paragraph 2 – “However, it should be noted that other factors such as personal needs…may not always be possible to improve…”, changed to “It should also be noted that other factors such as personal needs…may not be possible to improve…”.
- Page 19 – addition of “GNP, Gross national product”; FIGO, International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics; ICM, International Confederation of Midwives; and WHO, World Health Organization” have been added to the abbreviations and acronyms list.

Other changes

- Page 6, 2nd paragraph – the mention of Palladium, Sukura, Labadi and Tema might compromise confidentiality - as most of these are specific areas which have only 1-2 facilities. These locations have been removed and the description now states “Two FGDs and twenty-one individual in-depth interviews were conducted in suburbs of Accra”.