Author's response to reviews

Title: Effects of work related factors on breastfeeding behavior of working mothers in Taiwan's Semiconductor Manufacturer: a cross sectional survey

Authors:

Yi Chun Chen (yichun@tmu.edu.tw)
Ya-Chi Wu (ycwu@cde.org.tw)
Wei-Chu Chie (weichu@ntu.edu.tw)

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for your e-mail on November 21, 2005 of the comments for our manuscript 5893251118278401. We want to thank four referees for their careful and thoughtful comments. All there are addressed and incorporated in the revised manuscript. Attached please find our point by point responses and the revised manuscript. All revisions were underlined.

Thank you again for your kind attention and we are looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely yours,

Wei-Chu Chie, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor, School of Public Health and Graduate Institute of Preventive Medicine
College of Public Health, National Taiwan University
Room 209, 19 Hsuchow Road
Taipei 10020,
Taiwan

Tel: 886-2-23920460
Fax: 886-2-23920456
E-mail: weichu@episerv.cph.ntu.edu.tw, weichu@ntu.edu.tw
Response to Reviewer Lisa Amir

Thank you for your helpful comments. We have incorporated the comments in the revised manuscript. All revisions were underlined:

1. We have revised Abstract according to your comments (P2).
2. Background
   • Para 1: We have included “early return to work” in the paragraph (Line 3-4).
   • We have revised the Background and added WHO recommendations (Para2, reference 4). The maternity leave and length of lactation in Taiwan are under the world criteria according to the WHO recommendations.
   • P3, Para 3: We have changed all the “pumping room” to “lactation room”.
   • P4, Para 4: We have revised the aim of the study.
3. Methods
   • We have added the city name “Hsinchu”(P4). We have provided background information of the city and the breastfeeding facilities of similar companies.
   • P4, Para 2, we have revised the description to make it clearer.
   • P5, Para 2we have changed it to “ethics committee”.
   • No, we had subjects’ names, work ID and telephone number on the questionnaires. In case we had further question about the questionnaire, we could connect them. But all the personal information and answers are kept confidential by the researchers.
   • We have moved the response rate to Results section.(P7, Para 1)
4. Results
   • We have added background data to Results section (P7) and Table 1 (P15).
   • We included all breastfeeding behaviors, both during maternity leave and after returning to work. Compare to older women, younger mothers were more likely to breastfeed. But they only breastfeed during maternity leave. This may because most of the younger mothers worked at fabrication and they have some difficulty to use the breast pumping break and the lactation room. We have put this to Discussions section (P9 Para2).
   • We have changed all the p values to 95% CIs (P8 Para 2 and Table 4).
5. Discussions
   • We have checked words spelling.
   • We have compared our results to the rates in a national survey conducted in Taiwan [9].
   • We did not publish our field observation. It is part of the thesis. We deleted this sentence to avoid confusion.
   • We have revised the sentence (P11, Para 2).
6. Conclusions. We have reworded it to “found” because it is a finding of Galtry (P12).
7. We have revised Table3. It is Table 4 in the revised manuscript (P19).
Responses to Reviewer Marie Tarrant

Thank you for your helpful comments. We have incorporated the comments in the revised manuscript. All revisions were **underlined**:

1. General: We have put this point to Discussions section “**Worksite Breastfeeding Promotion**” (P11).
2. We have checked and revised all references.
3. We have changed the "countries" to "countries’".
4. We have added WHO reference.(reference 4)
5. We have revised the Methods (P6) by including the definitions of variables. Also we have translated the questionnaire and included it as appendix.
Responses to Reviewer Colin Binns

Thank you for your helpful comments. We have incorporated the comments in the revised manuscript. All revisions were underlined:

1. We have changed our title as “a cross sectional survey” (P1).
2. We clarified the definition of continue breastfeeding (at least have breastfed 2 weeks after return to work) on PP. 5-6. We used 60 days as a cut point because 85% women’s maternity leaves are 56-60 days.
3. We have included “child’s age” in data analysis and revised all Tables and Results (Table 2 and 3, P16-18). Child’s age was related to women’s breastfeeding behavior. It may not only because the memory recall but also the change of social environment. We have discussed the possible causes of this finding in Discussion (P9, Para 1). The associations between other variables and breastfeeding behavior were not affected after adjusting for child’s age.
4. We have revised Conclusions and added the statement of the American Academy of Pediatrics Section on Breastfeeding about breastfeeding and infant morbidity and mortality. (P12, Para 1 and reference 25)
5. We have revised Backgrounds and added the WHO recommendations. (P3, Para 2 reference 4)
6. We have updated and revised all references.
7. We have rewritten our objectives (aim) (P4, Para 1).
8. We deeply appreciate the references you recommended, and have added some of them to the article.
Responses to Reviewer: Ted Greiner

Thank you for your helpful comments. We have incorporated the comments in the revised manuscript. All revisions were underlined:

1. We have added the possibility of reverse causality to Discussion (P10, Para 2).
2. Background: We have revised P3, Para 2 and replaced the recommendation of AAP by the recommendation of WHO.
3. Research setting and subjects: office workers have more flexibility for their working hours or schedule. It could be 8:30-18:00 or 9:00-18:30 or the other schedule. It was system of job responsibility. Fabrication workers need to spend most working hours on line. We have revised Methods (P4, Para2) to make the description clearer.
4. Results: “Awareness” is better than “perception”. We changed all perceptions to awareness and underlined them.
5. Discussions: We have mentioned the point at P9, Para1.
6. For the semiconductor manufacture, “fabrication” was more appropriate and more commonly used than “manufacturing” or “factory”.


Appendix

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work ID</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Ext tel number</th>
</tr>
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Please answer the following questions on how you nursed your most recently born child

Information about the most recently born child
1. Child’s birth date yy/mm
2. Child’s birth weight _______ kg
3. Child’s order  □ 1. The first one  □ 2. The second one  □ 3. The third one  □ 4. others
5. Is he/she a premature baby?  □ 1. Yes  □ 2. No
6. Did you want to breastfeed him/her after the baby was born?
   □ 1. strong intention  □ 2. have intention  □ 3. no intention
7. How long was your maternity leave? _____ day

Next, we would like to know about your work and nursing status after returning to work
8. How long did you spend on your daily commute before the most recently born child was one year old?
   □ 1. in one hour  □ 2. in two hours  □ 3. in three hours  □ 4. over three hours
9. Did you do shift work after you returned to work?  □ 1. Yes  □ 2. No
10. Did you need any substitute when you left your position during working hours?
    □ 1. almost  □ 2. almost not
11. Before the child’s one year birthday, how often were you able to see your child?
    □ 1. almost everyday.
    □ 2. not everyday, at least two days a week.
    □ 3. not everyday, about two days a month.
    □ 4. less than two days a month.
    □ 5. others, explanation __________________________

Next, we would like to know about your workplace's breastfeeding policy and your infant's feeding status
12. Did you know about the lactation room in your company?
    □ 1. Yes  □ 2. No
12a. Is the location convenient for you?
    □ 1. Yes  □ 2. OK  □ 3. No  □ 4. Never us, no idea
12b. Have you ever used the lactation room?
    □ 1. Yes (jump to 13)  □ 2. No (please answer 12c)
12c. Why did you not use it?
1. Not breastfeeding after return to work
2. Not pumping breast milk, only breastfeeding at home
3. Found another place to pump
4. Other reason, explanation ____________________

13. How do you feel about “the lactation room” (multiple-choice)
   □ 1. Very good
   □ 2. No idea
   □ 3. Space is too small
   □ 4. The location was too far, need more lactation rooms
   □ 5. The location is not convenient, because they take care the sick people at the same place.
   □ 6. Provide some facilities such as hospital grade breastpump or electronic steam sterilizer
   □ 7. Other suggestion, explanation ____________________

14. Did you know about pumping breaks?  □ 1. Yes □ 2. No

15. How do you feel about the pumping breaks? (multiple-choice)
   □ 1. Very good
   □ 2. No idea
   □ 3. No promotion, I don’t know about the rule
   □ 4. Not enough, I wish it could be longer for ________ (hour)
   □ 5. Uncomfortable to use it because of the work situations and concerns
   □ 6. Because the work pressure, I seldom use the break or can’t take the break. Only breastfeeding at home
   □ 7. Other suggestion, explanation ____________________

16. Did you ever breastfeed your most recently born child?
   □ 1. Yes (Please answer question 16.ab) □ 2. No (Jump to 18)

16a. Do you breastfeed now? □ 1. Yes □ 2. No
16b. How long did you breastfeed your most recently born child? ______ Days, or ______ Weeks, or _____ months

17. Did you have any breast pumping experience at your workplace after your most recently born child was born?
   □ 1. Yes (Please answer the following) □ 2. No (Jump to 18)

17a. Did you use the breastfeeding break?
   □ 1. Yes (Jump to 17c) □ 2. No (Please answer 17b.)

17b. Why not? (multiple-choice)
   □ 1. I think my boss may disagree about it
   □ 2. I don’t think my colleagues agree or support it
   □ 3. I don’t think I should use it
   □ 4. Others, explanation ________
17c. Did you still pump your breast milk now?
   □ 1. Yes  (jump to 18 )  □ 2. No ( please answer the following )

17d. When did you stop to pump breast milk?
   When the child was _____ months old

17e. Why did you stop? (multiple-choice)
   □ 1. My child was old enough
   □ 2. Less breast milk or no breast milk
   □ 3. My breast milk was not good enough
   □ 4. Take the night shift
   □ 5. Increasing of my work loading, no time to pump
   □ 6. Other reason, explanation________

Next, we would like to know about your social support
18. Did your husband agree that you should breastfeed the child after your most recently born was born?
   □ 1. Yes □ 2. No □ 3. No opinion □ 4. Other________

19. Who was the major caregiver for the most recently born child?__________
   Did he/she agree you to breastfeed?
   □ 1. Yes □ 2. No □ 3. No opinion □ 4. Other________

20. Did your direct supervisor agree with his/her direct subordinates' decision to pump breast milk in the workplace?
   □ 1. Yes □ 2. No comment □ 3. Depend on the situation □ 4. No □ 5. I don’t know what he thinks

21. Did your direct supervisor take action to support mothers to pump breast milk in the workplace? (such as coordinate someone to help the mothers leave to pump their breast milk)
   □ 1. Yes □ 2. Depend on the situation □ 3. No □ 4. I have no idea about their opinion

22. Did most of your colleagues (defined as people working with you) agree that mothers can pump their breast milk in the workplace?
   □ 1. Most of them agree (or no opinion)
   □ 2. Some of them agree, some of them do not
   □ 3. Most of them don’t agree
   □ 4. I have no idea about their opinion

23. Would they like to take action to support the mothers? (such as: substitute the mother’s work for 4 months when she leaves to pump breast milk, take
the night shift )
   □ 1. Most of them would like
   □ 2. Some of them would, some of them would not
   □ 3. Most of them would not
   □ 4. I have no idea about their opinion
24. Did you agree that mothers could pump their breast milk at workplace?
   □ 1. Yes □ 2. Depend on the situation □ 3. No
25. Would you like to take action to support them?
   ( such as: substitute the mother's work for 4 months when she leaves to pump breast milk, take
   the night shift )
   □ 1. Yes □ 2. Depend on the situation □ 3. No
26. Did you know anyone who used to pump her breast milk when you delivered your most
recently born child?
   □ 1. Yes □ 2. No (*jump to 27*)
27. Would they like to give any support about breastfeeding?
   □ 1. Yes □ 2. No

Your information
29. Job position_________