Author's response to reviews

Title: Early uptake of HIV counseling and testing among pregnant women at different levels of health facilities - experiences from a community-based study in Northern Vietnam

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Letter to the Editor (24\textsuperscript{th} January 2011)

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Dear Sirs/Madams

First of all, we would like to thank the Editor for the acceptance of our manuscript. We have revised the manuscript to correct some mistakes. We also have revised the format following the requirement from the Journal.

We have used yellow highlight to mark all the changes. Please note that all the pages given in this letter refer the page in the revised version.

I. Changes in the text

1. On Frond page, we have changed the Institute name of the first author.
2. On page 2, under the Abstract, In the Methods, the second sentence, we have corrected grammar “Data was collected …”, instead of “Data were collected ….”
3. On page 2, under the abstract, in the Results, line 4, we have corrected “(OR = 43.2, CI: 18.9-98.1” by adding one decimal in the numbers.
4. On page 3, the 3\textsuperscript{rd} line from the bottom, we have changed “women said that they had been tested” instead of “women said to be tested”
5. On page 4, small changes of grammar, marked in yellow.
6. On page 5, under the sub-section of Data Analysis, we have corrected the mixed up of “dependent” and “independent” variables (marked in yellow).
7. On page 5, under the section of Results, in the sub-section of Socio-economics and the uptake of HIV test, line 4\textsuperscript{th} from the bottom, we correct the number “fifty-one” instead of “fifty-nine”; line 2\textsuperscript{nd} from the bottom, we correct “Nearly 40% of the women…”, instead of “Nearly two fifths of the women…..”
8. On page 6, we have moved out the last section in the sub-section of Socio-economics and the uptake of HIV test: “The women who had two children were more likely un-tested than the women who had one child (13.1\% in comparison with 6.7\%, with p<0.001). Further, women living in remote rural areas were more likely un-tested than women living in urban areas (19.9\% vs 3.0\%, with p<0.001). In relation to the early uptake of HIV testing, women who had one child, women with education above secondary school and women living in semi-urban areas, were more like tested early than women who had three children, women with education below secondary school and women living at urban areas. These
differences were significant with p<0.01." We recognized that we did not really comparing the groups as we indicate, we calculated overall p-values which does not show the direction of the association as description and further the total of number in the table are in rows not in columns so we can not compare the calculated proportions of the columns.

9. On page 6, under the sub-section of *Early testing provision and counselling*, we have revised the first sentence as following: “The associations between type of health facility and provision of HIV information at the first antenatal care visit among women who had their first HIV test before 34 weeks and after 34 weeks gestation are summarized in Table 3”. Further down 2 lines, we have corrected the number (OR = 43.2; CI: 18.9-98.1).

10. On page 8, under the section of Discussion, the 2nd paragraph from the top of page, we correct the proportion, “near 71%”, instead of “nearly 80%” (marked in yellow).

11. On page 9, under the section of Acknowledgement, we have revised some small things that marked in yellow.

**II. Changes in the Tables:**

1. In Table 2, we have changed the number in of the variable “Number of children” and “Time of first ANC visit” those marked in yellow.

2. In Table 3, we have added the word “visit” after the variable of “The provision of HIV information at the 1st antenatal care”.

**III. Format changes:**

1. We have separated the figure in a file name: “Additional file 1” as required from The BMC Series Editorial Production Team

Thanks for your attention and looking forward to hearing from you

Your sincerely,

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