Author's response to reviews

Title: The role of health extension workers in improving utilization of maternal health services in rural areas in Ethiopia: a cross sectional study

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editors,

On behalf of all authors, I would like to thank the referee for giving his time to read and review our manuscript for the third time. In his third review he suggested one constructive comment and recommended a discretionary revision. Accordingly in this revised version of our manuscript, we addressed the comment and made a minor revision. Attached herewith please find our reflection to the comment forwarded by the referee. Our reflection is written in italic.

Kind regards,

Araya Medhanyie
Reflections on comments given by referee 2

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The role of health extension workers in improving utilization of maternal health services in rural areas in Ethiopia: a cross sectional study

Discretionary revisions
It would be would to clarify the variable model family in terms of consistency. In some parts of the text, it reads (abstract, results) “had been working towards graduation or graduated as model family”; in other parts, it reads only graduated family (methods p. 9, discussion p. 14). Is there any difference?

Reflection: There is no any difference in meaning between the phrases “had been working towards graduation or graduated as model family” in abstract and results sections and “graduated family” in methods (p.9) and discussion (p.14) sections of the manuscript. Both phrases are used to imply the same.

Revision: To ensure consistency, in this revised manuscript we used the phrase “had been working towards graduation or graduated as model family” in all parts of the text. See abstract page 2 (paragraph 3, lines 5 and 6), methods page 9 (paragraph 1, lines 2, 3 and 9), results page 12 (paragraph 3, line 4) and discussion page 14(paragraph 1, lines 8 and 9).