Author's response to reviews

Title: Cooking fuel choices and garbage burning practices of Accra households as determinants of birth weight: a cross-sectional study

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

SUBMISSION OF MANUSCRIPT FOR PUBLICATION

We do hereby submit our manuscript titled "Cooking fuel choices and garbage burning practices of Accra households as determinants of birth weight" for publication in your journal for general readership. Indoor air pollution is an important public health issue in developing countries with consequences for health of women and children especially in these countries. Women and children are most exposed to indoor combustion pollutants due to women's household cooking roles and the closeness of children to their mothers. It is also a well known fact that women especially those in developing countries, even when pregnant, are never spared the household cooking duties. The few epidemiological studies conducted in the subject area have reported maternal exposure to indoor air pollution due to solid fuel use to have implications for fetal development and birth outcomes.

Our study is an original work, addresses the broad deficiencies of previous studies in the area and strengthens the epidemiological evidence greatly. Our study is also unique in the sense that it is the first to examine the contribution of garbage burning at home, a frequent practice in majority of urban households of developing countries, to the indoor exposure experience of pregnant women. This study has not been previously published whole or in part elsewhere, and is not under consideration for publication somewhere else. We sought ethical clearance for
implementation of the study and also ensured that participation of mothers did not occur until after informed consent was obtained.

All the authors have read the manuscript, are unanimously in agreement that the work is ready for submission to your journal for publication, and collectively do accept responsibility for the contents of the manuscript. All the authors have declared that they have no potential competing interests regarding the submitted manuscript.

Thank you.

Yours Sincerely

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