**Author's response to reviews**

**Title:** Newhints cluster randomised trial to evaluate the impact on neonatal mortality in rural Ghana of routine home visits to provide a package of essential newborn care interventions in the third trimester of pregnancy and the first week of life: trial protocol

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**Author's response to reviews:** see over
Newhints Protocol Paper: changes to proofs

Title page, name change for department for address 4, and page reformatted in your style.

Page 4, changed "medium-income" to "middle-income" countries

Page 7 changed (TBA) to (TBAs) – “s” added.

Page 9, additional sentence added to end of paragraph on Home visits as follows:

They conduct follow-up visits for referred babies within 24 hours, and an additional postnatal visit to LBW babies at the end of the second week.

Page 13-14, Mapping Zones: paragraph contained font size 11 on some rows – corrected so all now size 12.

Page 16, deleted the “in following sentence:

A MONTH form is completed for each woman, “and includes questions on whether ....

Page 20, last paragraph of Process evaluation: changed from “focussed” to focus group discussions

Page 23, last paragraph of Informed Consent: changed “processes evaluation” to “process evaluation”.

Page 24, in 1st sentence of 2nd paragraph of Dissemination, listing papers, in order to improve clarity and consistency with analysis plan:

“sub-group analysis findings by place of delivery”

Replaced by

“any intervention differences by place of delivery or between rural and urban zones”

Page 25, Authors’ Contributions, “GtA” replaced by “GA” as per your formatting.

Table 1, last line, “very” removed because additional visit is for all LBW babies