Author’s response to reviews

Title: Prevalence of diarrhea and associated factors among under-five children in Bahir Dar city, Northwest Ethiopia, 2016: a cross-sectional study

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Point by point responses for reviewer’s comment.

We thank the editors and reviewers for your time spent evaluating our manuscript. Please find below our response to your comments and suggestions. Your comments are essential and well taken. The comments and suggestions are incorporated in the main manuscript text. The responses are provided below as follows.

Editor’s comment
Author’s responses

Please clearly indicate the corresponding author on your title page. Thank you for your valuable comment. It is written in the title page and see in the texts.
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REVIEWER COMMENTS
The study has an excellent design and careful execution to answer a question about a common child heath condition.

Thank you

To help the authors understand my point, we can think about the sanitation practices and child growth. There are many observational studies that show that stunting is more likely in households with poor sanitation practices. But when 3 really large, really good interventional studies were done, one being SHINE in Zimbabwe where 18,000 vented pitlatrines were constructed, the children did not grow 1 mm taller. So the association between poor sanitation and poor growth is that it does not mean poor sanitation caused poor growth. What these authors need to say is that this association that they found can be used for hypothesis generation for further evidence generation; it is not appropriate to say that encouraging the use/construction of latrines would be helpful. Going through the manuscript and seeing where the authors have done this would be an instructive exercise for them.

Thank you for your valuable comments. All issues rose by you is tried to address and see in the texts.

ADDITIONAL REQUESTS/SUGGESTIONS: The authors should remember that this is an association study, which is best used for hypothesis generation. They state that improving sanitation facilities in homes will result in less diarrhea. These data do not support this recommendation. The data simply associate sanitation practices with diarrhea.

Thank you for your valuable comment. It is corrected as comment given and see in the texts.