Author's response to reviews

Title: Accessibility and Potency of Uterotonic Drugs purchased by Simulated Clients in Four Districts in India

Authors:

Cynthia Stanton (cstanton@jhsph.edu)
Deepak Nitya Nand (ndeepak@path.org)
Alissa Koski (adkoski@gmail.com)
Ellie Mirzabagi (ellie.mrzabagi@gmail.com)
Steve Brooke (sbrooke@path.org)
Breanne Grady (bgrady@path.org)
Luke C Mullany (lmullany@jhsph.edu)

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Author's response to reviews:

October 23, 2014
To: Editor/s of BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth
From: Cynthia Stanton, on behalf of all co-authors
RE: MS: 1246552391229085, Research article, Accessibility and Potency of Uterotonic Drugs purchased by Simulated Clients in Four Districts in India

Thank you very much for your second series of comments and edits. We have responded to all of your queries in the document India Drug Quality Paper 10_23_2014 TRACK CHANGES. Below please find our response in italics to each of your queries. Thanks very much for your assistance.

Editorial Request
(1) Author's Contribution
- For manuscripts with more than one author, all BMC Series journals require an Authors' Contributions section to be placed after the Competing Interests section.

An 'author' is generally considered to be someone who has made substantive intellectual contributions to a published study. To qualify as an author one should 1) have made substantial contributions to conception and design, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data; 2) have been involved in drafting the manuscript or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and 3) have given final approval of the version to be published. Each author should have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the content. Acquisition of funding, collection of data, or general supervision of the research group, alone, does not justify authorship.

We suggest the following format (please use initials to refer to each author's contribution): AB carried out the molecular genetic studies, participated in the sequence alignment and drafted the manuscript. JY carried out the
immunoassays. MT participated in the sequence alignment. ES participated in the design of the study and performed the statistical analysis. FG conceived of the study, and participated in its design and coordination and helped to draft the manuscript. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

Contributors who do not meet the criteria for authorship should be listed in an acknowledgements section. Examples of those who might be acknowledged include a person who provided purely technical help, writing assistance, or a department chair who provided only general support.

A new subheading has been added to the manuscript along with a paragraph outlining each of the author’s contributions. See below.

Authors’ Contributions

CS and LCM jointly designed the study and analyzed the data. CS wrote the first draft of the paper. CS and DNN were responsible for data collector training and DNN oversaw data collection. DNN, AK, EM contributed to the design of the study and the editing the paper. BG and SB provided technical guidance throughout the study, particularly regarding potency testing of the uterotonic drugs, and assisted with the editing of the paper.

(2) Acknowledgments

- By way of a section ‘Acknowledgments’, please acknowledge anyone who contributed towards the article by making substantial contributions to conception, design, acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data, or who was involved in drafting the manuscript or revising it critically for important intellectual content, but who does not meet the criteria for authorship. Please also include the source(s) of funding for each author, and for the manuscript preparation. Authors must describe the role of the funding body, if any, in design, in the collection, analysis, and interpretation of data; in the writing of the manuscript; and in the decision to submit the manuscript for publication. Please also acknowledge anyone who contributed materials essential for the study. If a language editor has made significant revision of the manuscript, we recommend that you acknowledge the editor by name, where possible.

The role of a scientific (medical) writer must be included in the acknowledgements section, including their source(s) of funding. We suggest wording such as ‘We thank Jane Doe who provided medical writing services on behalf of XYZ Pharmaceuticals Ltd.’

Authors should obtain permission to acknowledge from all those mentioned in the Acknowledgments section.

- Please note that if you don’t have someone to acknowledge, we would still need you to provide an Acknowledgments section within the manuscript and you may also mention there that you do not have someone to acknowledge to.

The Funding Statement was revised to specify that the Gates foundation was responsible for all aspects of the study and to specify that the funders played no part in decision-making about the study. Please see below.

Funding Statement Text:
This research was supported by the Oxytocin Initiative Project and undertaken by PATH, JHSPH, RTI International, and the Social and Rural Research Institute (SRI) of IMRB International. All funding for this study came from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF, www.gatesfoundation.org). The BMGF grant number is 51592. Funders played no role in the design, data collection, analysis, interpretation of data, writing of the manuscript or the decision to submit this paper for publication.

1. Manuscript formatting

Please format your manuscript according to journal guidelines and include separate discussion and conclusion sections. Please see the following link for more information:

http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmcpregnancychildbirth/authors/instructions/researcharticle#formatting-results

What was previously the Conclusion has now been divided up into Discussion and Conclusion. See lines 262 and 311 in the manuscript.

We would be grateful if you could address the comments in a revised manuscript and provide a cover letter giving a point-by-point response to the concerns.

We are uploading this Cover letter and a Word document of the manuscript with TRACK CHANGES.

Please also ensure that your revised manuscript conforms to the journal style (http://www.biomedcentral.com/info/ifora/medicine_journals ). It is important that your files are correctly formatted.

We have verified that the manuscript is in accord with the Author Guidelines.