Author's response to reviews

**Title:** Sequelae of obstructed labor in low-resource countries: an under-valued and under-studied problem - Systematic review of obstetric fistula and its association with stillbirth

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**Author's response to reviews:** see over
Dear BMC Public Health editor:

Obstetric fistula is a birth-related injury associated with poverty and lack of adequate obstetric care; it has been neglected by health care systems and also by researchers. Little reliable information about its occurrence has been published, and few data are available to inform policy and support intervention programs. It is also associated with intrapartum stillbirth, which occurs 50 times more frequently in developing than developed countries, and both these issues are linked to prolonged, obstructed labor.

To highlight these issues and the need for strong data to support interventions, we have conducted a systematic review of population-based obstetric fistula incidence and prevalence data and associated stillbirth. We would like to submit our manuscript, “Sequela of obstructed labor in low-resource countries: an under-valued and under-studied problem – Systematic review of obstetric fistula and its association with stillbirth”, to BMC Public Health for peer review.

Below is a list of potential peer reviewers.

We thank you for considering our inquiry, and look forward to your response.

Best wishes,

Karen Cowgill

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