Author’s response to reviews

Title: Factors associated with postpartum hemorrhage maternal death in referral hospitals in Senegal and Mali: a cross-sectional epidemiological survey.

Authors:

Julie TORT (julie.tort@gmail.com)
Patrick ROZENBERG (prozenberg@chi-poissy-st-germain.fr)
Mamadou TRAORE (mtraore133@gmail.com)
Pierre FOURNIER (pierre.fournier@umontreal.ca)
Alexandre DUMONT (alexandre.dumont@ird.fr)

Version: 5
Date: 6 March 2015

Author’s response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor in chief,

Thank you for your review and comments. Please find enclosed our comments of the revised manuscript entitled: “Post-partum hemorrhage in referral hospitals in Senegal and Mali: Factors associated with maternal death” for re-submission to BMC Pregnancy & Childbirth.

1) Final editing for correctness of English language is required (see e.g., line 75, “the most cases are related to uterine atony”). This should be “the majority of cases” or most cases.

   We revised as “most cases” (line 75).

2) The authors should comply with reviewer KD’s recommendation (comment #3) to mention where the majority of the deliveries in these countries take place in the manuscript on the top of page 6, not just in the responses to reviewers.

   We added the sentence: “According to available statistics in Mali and Senegal, among the remaining 90% of deliveries, approximately 55% occurred at home and 45% in community health care centers in both countries” (line 119).

3) Add semi-colon after the word pregnancy on line 150, as suggested by reviewer EB.

   We added a semi-colon after “women” in line 153.

4) Information about how the PPH risk factors considered in the study were selected should be incorporated in the manuscript, as per reviewer KD’s comment #1.

   We added the sentence: “Well known individual risk factors were selected from relevant literature. Institutional or contextual factors were selected from information based on our field experience and inputs from health providers in participating hospitals.” in line 154.

5) The lack of assessment of steps taken for prevention and initial management of PPH (as per reviewer KD) is a limitation of this study and should be mentioned in the limitations paragraph of the paper.

   We added the sentence: “Thirdly, we have not assessed if providers in the studied facilities were aware of the active management of the third stage of labor recommendations for PPH prevention and whether or not it was implemented.” in line 315.
Sincerely Yours,

Julie TORT, PhD candidate.
UMR 216, Faculté de Pharmacie, Laboratoire de Parasitologie, 4 Avenue de l’Observatoire, 75270 Paris Cedex 6, France.
Tel.: 33 (0)1 53 73 96 57
julie.tort@gmail.com