Author's response to reviews

Title: A CROSS SECTIONAL STUDY OF MATERNAL NEAR MISS AND MORTALITY AT A RURAL TERTIARY CENTRE IN SOUTHERN NIGERIA

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RESPONSE TO REVIEWERS COMMONETS ON THE MANUSCRIPT "PRCH-D-15-00479R3

A CROSS SECTIONAL STUDY OF MATERNAL NEAR MISS AND MORTALITY AT A RURAL TERTIARY CENTRE IN SOUTHERN NIGERIA"

Thank you for your effort in reviewing our manuscript.

RESPONSE TO REVIEWER’S COMMENTS.

Reviewer’s comments:

1. BACKGROUND (para 1): Regarding the statement of the "attainment of the Millennium Development Goals," it sounds as if all goals, 1-8, were achieved. Given that this is not the case, I suggest re-wording this sentence to state: Although there has been some progress in Nigeria in reaching the maternal health Millennium Development Goals, there is still an urgent need to sustain and increase the quality, availability, and accessibility of maternal and child health commodities, given the failure to attain the standards set forth by the MDGs.

Author’s Response: The suggestion is well appreciated and has been reflected in the revised manuscript.
2. **BACKGROUND (para 1):** The MDG report published by the United Nations Development Programme indicates that the country's MMR is 243/100,000 (http://www.ng.undp.org/content/nigeria/en/home/library/mdg/nigeria-mdg-report/). This is different for the estimates provided in the background section.

Author’s Response: The Nigeria maternal mortality statistics is an estimate which could account for the disparities noted in different surveys and studies. The suggested reference has been added because of its relationship with MDGs.

3. **TABLE 3:** Please include the p-values in the table. Also, a footnote that indicates the statistical method used would be useful.

   Authors Response: The p-value as stated in the result section has been added in the table 3.

Thank you once again for your efforts in bringing out the best in our manuscript.

Yours truly,

Dr. Ikechukwu Mbachu.