Author’s response to reviews

Title: Obstetric Determinants of Preterm Delivery in a Regional Hospital, Accra, Ghana 2016

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for accepting our manuscript for publication.

We appreciate the work you team put into our manuscript to get it to this level.

We have attached a point by point reponse of the editorial comments raised in the document below.

Thank you once again,

Warm regards

Dr. Ernest Kenu
1. In the Funding section, please also state the role of the funding body in the design of the study, collection, analysis, interpretation of data, and in writing the manuscript.

Response:

The funding section has been rewritten to state the role of the funders.

2. Please provide a List of abbreviations after the Conclusions section. If abbreviations are used in the text, they should be defined in the text at first use and included in this list.

Response:

The abbreviations have been defined in the text and included in the list of abbreviations.

3. Thank you for providing a statement regarding the Availability of data and materials. However, we would like to request that you amend this statement. Submission of a manuscript to a BioMed Central journal implies that materials described in the manuscript, including all relevant raw data, will be freely available to any scientist wishing to use them for non-commercial purposes, without breaching participant confidentiality.

Data availability statements can take one of the following forms (or a combination of more than one if required for multiple datasets):

- The datasets generated and/or analysed during the current study are available in the [NAME] repository, [PERSISTENT WEB LINK TO DATASETS]

- The datasets used and/or analysed during the current study are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

- All data generated or analysed during this study are included in this published article [and its supplementary information files].

- The datasets generated and/or analysed during the current study are not publicly available due [REASON WHY DATA ARE NOT PUBLIC] but are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

- Data sharing is not applicable to this article as no datasets were generated or analysed during the current study.

- The data that support the findings of this study are available from [third party name] but restrictions apply to the availability of these data, which were used under license for the current
study, and so are not publicly available. Data are however available from the authors upon reasonable request and with permission of [third party name].

-Not applicable. If your manuscript does not contain any data, please state ‘Not applicable’ in this section.

Response:

The data availability statement has been modified appropriately based on the suggested statements.

4. We note that DAB, DKA and KMN are missing from the Authors' contribution section, but are included on the title page. In the section “Authors’ contributions”, please provide further clarifications on their contributions, and see our guidelines for authorship below.

An 'author' is generally considered to be someone who has made substantive intellectual contributions to a published study. Authors are expected to fulfil the criteria below (adapted from McNutt et al., Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Feb 2018, 201715374; DOI: 10.1073/pnas.1715374115; licensed under CC BY 4.0):

Each author is expected to have made substantial contributions to the conception OR design of the work; OR the acquisition, analysis, OR interpretation of data; OR the creation of new software used in the work; OR have drafted the work or substantively revised it

AND to have approved the submitted version (and any substantially modified version that involves the author's contribution to the study);

AND to have agreed both to be personally accountable for the author's own contributions and to ensure that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work, even ones in which the author was not personally involved, are appropriately investigated, resolved, and the resolution documented in the literature.

Acquisition of funding, collection of data or general supervision of the research group, alone, does not usually justify authorship.

Response:

The authors’ contribution section has been updated to reflect each authors contribution towards the work and the final manuscript.

5. Please include a statement in Authors’ contributions clearly indicating that all authors read and approved the final version of the manuscript.

Response:
This statement has been included as the last statement in the authors’ contribution section

6. Please remove the tracked changes and response to reviewers files from the file inventory, as they are no longer needed.

Response:

All other documents have been removed from file inventory

7. Please upload English language versions of all questionnaires developed specifically for use in this study as supplementary files. If the questionnaires are not yours or are already published by you, please supply references and/or links to them.

Response:

The questionnaire used for the study has been uploaded as requested.

8. Please ensure that all additional files are explicitly referred to in the main text. Any items which do not meet these requirements may be deleted by our production department.

Response:

All additional files have been taken off.

9. Please proofread and ensure that when you upload your revised submission that it is in the final form for publication. Please remove any tracked changes, colored text, or highlighting and include only a single clean copy of the manuscript. Should you wish to respond to these revision requests, please include the information in the designated input box only.

Response:

The manuscript has been proof read and copyedited by authors.