Author’s response to reviews

Title: Is the place of birth related to the mother’s satisfaction with childbirth? A cross-sectional study in a rural district of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic (Lao PDR)

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Author’s response letter

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Author’s response to reviews

Dear editors and reviewers,

Thank you very much for the precious suggestions to promote clarity. We have made the essential editorial revisions that we were requested. Please see a point-by-point response to the comments below. In the revised manuscript, all the changes we have made are indicated with tracked changes.

Sincerely yours,

Tomomi Takayama

Response to comments from editor, Dr. Jeanine Young

Thank you for addressing the reviewers comments.

We have some suggestions for some minor editorial changes to promote clarity. Please modify the following lines to read:

Lines 357-363:

In the present study, other factors that were positively related to satisfaction with childbirth were: 1) absence of pregnancy complication, and 2) family members’ decisions on delivery place. However, the present study could not identify the association because this study did not adjust for these confounding variables.
Second, the present study used the five-item scale that has not been used in previous studies. The researcher had to eliminate the two items from the original, seven-item SWCh in order to keep the original single factor model and to increase the reliability of the Cronbach’s alpha. However, the five-item scale used in the present study ensured construct validity; the main findings are unlikely to change even if the original seven-item scale had been used in the present study.

Three mothers who referred from home to hospital during birth were excluded because the transfer to facility during labour was likely to confound results relating to maternal satisfaction with childbirth [29].

Previous studies in Lao PDR have explored the satisfaction with maternal care services in health facilities. This study is original in that it includes hypothesis-based analysis, including not only the mothers who gave birth at a health facility but also the mothers who gave birth at home.

Thank you very much for the review. We have changed the manuscript following your suggestions. In addition, we have changed “delivery” into “birth” for the part we failed to correct previously.

In the present study, other factors that were positively related to satisfaction with childbirth were: 1) absence of pregnancy complication, and 2) family members’ decisions on birth place. However, the present study could not identify the association because this study did not adjust for these confounding variables.

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To reviewers

Thank you very much again for your precious review and recommendation.

Sincerely yours,

Tomomi Takayama

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