**Author’s response to reviews**

**Title:** Different levels of associations between medical co-morbidities and preterm birth outcomes among racial/ethnic women enrolled in Medicaid 2014-2015: Retrospective Analysis

**Authors:**

Hyewon Lee (hyewon.lee@post.harvard.edu)

Ilya OKUNEV (ilya.okunev@dentaquest.com)

Eric Tranby (eric.tranby@dentaquest.com)

Michael Monopoli (mike.monopoli@dentaquest.com)

**Version:** 3 **Date:** 03 Jan 2020

**Author’s response to reviews:**

COVER LETTER WITH A POINT-BY-POINT RESPONSE TO THE COMMENTS

Email and Editor's comments

1. If abbreviations are used in the text they should be defined in the text at first use, and a list of abbreviations should be provided in the Declarations.

Page 15 Line 2-5: Added the following section

**Abbreviations**

IBM: International Business Machines


2. Please include a statement in the Authors' contributions section to the effect that all authors have read and approved the manuscript, and ensure that this is the case.

Page 16 Line 24: Added “All authors have read and approved the manuscript.”
3. Please ensure that all figures/tables and supplementary files are cited within the main text (this does not include the declarations). Any items which are not cited may be deleted by our production department upon publication. Currently, appendix C is not cited.

Page 7 Line 15: Added “and their ICD-9-CM codes are listed in APPENDIX B.”

Page 8 Line 7: Changed Appendix B to Appendix C

4. Please remove the cover letter and RECORD document from the end of your manuscript file as these are no longer needed in the publication process.

Confirmed that the cover letter and RECORD document from the end of the manuscript file is removed.

5. At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files.

Confirmed that the manuscript is a single, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours.

Additional edits: Edited Abstract Methodology Section to be fit in 350 words and changed “comorbidities” in the manuscript to “co-morbidities” to be consistent throughout the manuscript

Page 3 Line 9-11: added “from the IBM/Watson Truven Multi-State Medicaid core dataset from 2014 to 2015.”

Page 3 Line 12: changed “All single liveborn births” to “All births” as “single live” birth was indicated in the prior sentence.

Page 3 Line 15: deleted ICD-9-CM

Page 3 Line 17: changed from “Major medical comorbidities” to “Medical co-morbidities”

Page 3 Line 21: deleted ICD-9-CM

Page 7 Line 12: changed from “comorbidities” to “co-morbidities”

Page 8 Line 10: changed from “comorbidities” to “co-morbidities”

Page 9 Line 8: changed from “comorbidities” to “co-morbidities”

Page 10 Line 23: changed from “comorbidities” to “co-morbidities”
Page 11 Line 11: changed from “comorbidities” to “co-morbidities”

Page 26 Line 11. changed from “conditions” to “co-morbidities”

Changed Figure 3 Title to “Figure 3. Estimated probability of preterm birth among women of different races/ethnicity, by medical co-morbidities at the time of delivery, and prenatal visits”. Changed “Medical Conditions” to “medical co-morbidities”