Author’s response to reviews

Title: An economic analysis of human milk supplementation for very low birth weight babies in the USA

Authors:

Grace Hampson (ghampson@ohe.org)
Sarah Richards (sarah.l.roberts@kcl.ac.uk)
Alan Lucas (a.lucas@ucl.ac.uk)
David Parkin (dparkin@ohe.org)

Version: 4 Date: 11 Jul 2019

Author’s response to reviews:

Thank you for the opportunity to revise this paper. In response to your comment "Thank you very much for responding to the reviewer about the mortality reduction. This is fine, but as it was a concern of the reviewer could we ask that you add brief discussion of these points to the paper (in the Discussion section) please?" we have now added the following to the discussion section:

The model demonstrates that use of a EHMD has a substantial impact on mortality, a reduction of 36 deaths in 1000 babies. This is in line with the two key papers that provide clinical data on this topic [5,13]. In addition, the relative risk implied by our data and results is 0.79, which is within the 0.06-1.16 range identified by Bhutter et al. [26] in a review of different interventions to prevent neonatal mortality,