Author’s response to reviews

Title: Why mothers still deliver at home: understanding factors associated with home deliveries and cultural practices in rural coastal Kenya, a cross-section study.

Authors:
Rodgers Moindi (rodgersonsomu@yahoo.com)
Moses Ngari (mmngari@gmail.com)
Charles Mbakaya (cmbakaya@kemri.org)
Venny Nyambati (n.venny@yahoo.com)

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Author’s response to reviews:

To the editor,

PUBH-D-15-00468R1; why mothers still deliver at home: understanding factors associated with home deliveries and cultural practices in rural coastal Kenya, a cross-section study.

Foremost, I would like to appreciate the timely review and response of the manuscript and the important corrections and recommendations made. I am hereby addressing the issues raised as follows;

Editor's Comments:

The Authors have addressed adequately the criticism made by the Reviewers.

However, I recommend that the Authors include a further limitation at the Discussion section of the manuscript. Because the study was health facility-based, selecting mothers who delivered in the previous 6 months and that were taking their babies to the clinic for immunization purposes, the study sampling only captured mothers of infants surviving to
six months of age. This may have introduced an additional source of selection bias to the study. It is likely that the prevalence of home delivery among mothers of deceased infants was higher than among mothers of survivors. It is possible that mothers of deceased infants have different reasons for delivering at home, including economic and cultural factors.

Thank you for that, and the discussion part on limitation now has appreciated that according to the recommendation in page 11 and 12.

Ethics:

If your study involves humans, human data or animals, then your article should contain an ethics statement which includes the name of the committee that approved your study.

If ethics was not required for your study, then this should be clearly stated and a rationale provided.

The permission letter is now attached and the committee is mentioned in the ethics part page 7

Others;

Other edits are done in conformity to the journal style as can be seen using the track changes.

Thank you.