Author’s response to reviews

Title: Coverage of Vitamin A Supplementation in Nigeria and Implications for Childhood Blindness

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Reviewer,

Thank you for your comments. They have been addressed. Kindly see below:

It seems as if most of the publications still refer to vitamin A deficiency, and not VADD, and so I am sorry, but I suggest you change the term back to vitamin A deficiency.

Response: This has been updated throughout the text.

Opening sentence in the abstract and introduction:

VAD is not a major cause of blindness in middle income countries, only in low income countries.

Response: This has been corrected. Page 2. Line 6 and Page 3 Lines 16 and 17

Re mortality: A recent review attributed only 1.7% of deaths in children in low and middle income countries to VADD; 95% of these deaths occurred in sub-Saharan Africa and south Asia where 2% of deaths (same in both regions) were attributed to VAD. Reference. Stevens GA, Bennett JE, Hennocq Q, Lu Y, De-Regil LM, Rogers L, Danaei G, Li G, White RA, Flaxman SR, Oehrle SP, Finucane MM, Guerrero R, Bhatta ZA, Then-Paulino A, Fawzi W, Black RE, Ezzati M. Trends and mortality effects of vitamin A deficiency in children in 138 low-income

This reference could also be used to update the data on the prevalence of VAD and the number of children affected.

Response: Thank you. This has been added. Page 3. Lines 21-23