Author’s response to reviews

Title: Comparing the reasons for Suicide from Attempt Survivors and their Families in Ghana

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Author’s response to reviews:

The Editor
BMC Public Health

We are submitting the final clean version of the manuscript titled “Comparing the reasons for Suicide from Attempt Survivors and their Families in Ghana”. We have also addressed all other comments point-by-point as indicated below:

Thank you for your careful editorial suggestions and comments which have improved the quality of this manuscript.

Sincerely,

Joseph Osafo

(Corresponding author)

Responses to comments from Editor

Comment 1: In the "Ethics approval and consent to participate" section, please clearly clarify whether the informed consent obtained was written or verbal. If verbal, please indicate the reason
for obtaining verbal rather than written consent and whether the ethics committee approved this form of consent.

Response 1: For consent to participate and publication, consent was sought from participants. We explained fully and meaningfully what the research is all about and how it will be disseminated through publication. Accordingly, the consent given was for both participation and publication. Participants were made aware of their right to refuse to participate and terminate the interview anytime. Both written and verbal consent were sought from participants. Verbal consent was used if the participant was not literate enough to participate in a written consent process. The ethics committee approved the use of verbal consent as well.

Comment 2: The 'Consent for publication/Consent to publish' statement covers manuscripts that contain any individual person’s data in any form (including individual details, images or videos), for which must be obtained from that person, or in the case of children, their parent or legal guardian.

Please clearly state in this section whether written consent for publication was obtained from the participants of this study to publish potentially identifying information (such as age, gender, etc.) and their direct quotes (which also include some potentially identifying personal information such as marital status, family information, etc.).

Response 2: Both verbal and written consent were sought from participants to publish information such as age, gender and direct quotes. Participants consented for findings and such information to be published without their names and other identifying information. They were made to sign a consent form concerning their participation in the research and publication of results for the public.

Comment 3: Please amend your citations to the Vancouver reference style, including numbers within the text that refer to numbered entries in the reference list as per our submission guidelines.

Response 3: This has been amended in the reference section.