Author’s response to reviews

Title: INCREASING RETENTION OF HIV POSITIVE PREGNANT AND BREASTFEEDING MOTHERS ON OPTION-B PLUS BY UPGRADING AND PROVIDING FULL TIME HIV SERVICES AT A LOWER HEALTH FACILITY IN RURAL UGANDA

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-How was the time period selected (it is an odd date range) and how was the sample size determined?

The time period was 6 months after accreditation of an ART clinic at one the lower level health facilities. This has been included in the manuscript.

-It is noted that pregnant and breastfeeding HIV positive women were selected from 5 sites - does 200 (the eligible women) represent all of the HIV positive pregnant or breastfeeding women attending these sites during this time span or all women who had a first visit during this time span? If the latter, what sort of follow-up period was considered?

The 200 HIV positive mothers are those who were refilling their ART drugs from the 5 study sites monthly and specifically those who were eligible. Details are included in the manuscript.
- From these 200, why were only 132 invited to participate and how were they selected (or were all invited and some declined?). What do we know about those who were not selected? Further details regarding the design and selection of participants will help to inform assessment of the data.

Details have been included in the manuscript

-Were the focus group discussion participants all included in the 132 quantitative participant sample as well or were some of these women different? How were they selected? Please provide more information on the focus group discussions.

The FGD participants did not participate in the quantitative aspect of the study. Details have been included in the manuscript

Thank you