Author’s response to reviews

Title: Trends in burden and risk factors associated with childhood stunting in Rwanda from 2000 to 2015: policy and program implications

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Version: 2 Date: 02 Jan 2020

Author’s response to reviews:

January 2, 2020

Dear Editors of BMC Public Health,

We appreciate your continued consideration of our manuscript entitled “Trends in burden and risk factors associated with childhood stunting in Rwanda from 2000 to 2015: policy and program implications” (Manuscript ID: PUBH-D-19-03650).

We were pleased to see that the Reviewers were satisfied with our revisions provided in November. We have provided a point-by-point response for the remaining editorial requests.

If there are any further issues or concerns that we can address, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,
Agnes Binagwaho and Alphonse Rukundo
Editor Comments:

1. We note that the email address for the corresponding author listed on the title page of the manuscript differs from the one mentioned in the editorial submission system. Please clarify which is the correct address for the corresponding author, amending either the title page or our submission data where appropriate.

RESPONSE: We have corrected this to reflect the correct email address for the corresponding author – Dr. Agnes Binagwaho: agnes_binagwaho@hms.harvard.edu

2. Please move your Keywords to after the abstract.

RESPONSE: We have completed this task.

3. Please rename your "introduction" section to "Background"

RESPONSE: We have completed this task.

4. Please provide a List of abbreviations after the Conclusions section. If abbreviations are used in the text, they should be defined in the text at first use and included in this list.

RESPONSE: We have added a list of abbreviation after the conclusions section as requested.

5. Please move your declarations to after the list of abbreviations, and before the reference section

RESPONSE: We have completed this task.

6. Please change your "ethics approval" subsection heading to "Ethics approval and consent to participate".

RESPONSE: We have reworded this as requested.

7. We notice that the initials of author Mawuena Aqbonyitor might be missing from the Authors' Contribution subsection.
Please make sure all authors are named by their initials in this section.

RESPONSE: Thank you for pointing out this error as we mistakenly included it as MW versus MA. We have corrected this.
8. When submitting your revised manuscript please ensure you do so as a single clean copy without any tracked changes, colored or highlighted text, as these are no longer required at this stage of the editorial process.

RESPONSE: We have included a clean copy of the manuscript.

BMC Public Health operates a policy of open peer review, which means that you will be able to see the names of the reviewers who provided the reports via the online peer review system. We encourage you to also view the reports there, via the action links on the left-hand side of the page, to see the names of the reviewers.

Reviewer reports:

Lana Chikhungu (Reviewer 1): The authors have addressed all the comments I had in the previous version so I accept that the manuscript can be published without revisions

RESPONSE: We are delighted that the Reviewer was pleased with our revisions and appreciate their contributions to how we could strengthen the manuscript from its original version.