Author’s response to reviews

Title: Individual-level and Community-level Determinants of Cervical Cancer Screening among Kenyan Women: A Multilevel Analysis of a Nationwide Survey

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Responses to reviewers’ comments

Reviewer 1 (Paolo Giorgi Rossi):
The paper has been improved and all the main comments have been addressed. I suggest to improve the references of the introduction: for HPV testing efficacy in low resource countries the only study that really gave a clear answer is Sankaranarayanan 2009 NEJM. also for self sampling there are other studies that better summarize the issue in LMIC (as Lazcano-ponce lancet oncology 2010) and for the accuracy (Arbyn Lancet oncol systematic review).

We appreciate the reviewer’s comments. We have included the above references according to the suggestions. Please see the revised references on page 5 line number 22 and 25 in the introduction section and page 22 line number 3-12 in reference section.

Reviewer 2 (Johannes Berkhof):
The paper has been very much improved.
A last point from my side is that I do not see why separate Table 3 and 4 are needed.
Only the fixed effects in the right columns of Table 3 and 4 are discussed by the authors, so the two right columns of the two tables can be merged into one new Table 3. The ICC of the models without community-level characteristics can be presented in the text if the authors feel these estimates are useful.

We have combined Table 3 and Table 4 as the reviewer suggested and modified the results section. Please refer to Table 3 on page 31-32 and the result section on page 12 line number 7; on page 13 line number 2, 5, 10 and 20.