Author’s response to reviews

Title: Pattern and determinants of contraceptive usage among women of reproductive age from the Digo community residing in Kwale, Kenya: Results from a cross-sectional household survey

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Author’s response to reviews:

Thank you very much for the review and comments

Editor Comments:

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Reviewer Reports:

Varsha Mulik (Reviewer 1): I would like authors not to include unmarried women, hysterectomy, menopausal women as part of study. This is due to fact that this population is mostly Muslim and pre-marital sex is not openly practiced. Also one should have idea to gauge the socioeconomic benefits/advantages of accessing contraception.

Authors' Response:

Thank you very much for this comment. We note that 76% of our respondents were in a marital union as described in Table 1 of demographic characteristics which also describes other socioeconomic parameters of the study population. With regards to unmet need for
contraception, our analysis was restricted to women who were in a marital union as described in Figure 4. Finally, the inferential statistics describing determinants of contraceptive usage in this community were adjusted for marital status in addition to other covariates. For this reason, we believe that we have adequately catered for variability in marital status among our study participants.

Aliya Naz (Reviewer 2): With regards to the References within the text, please use Superscript numbers and without brackets.

Authors' Response:

Thank you very much for this comment. We have revised the style of citation used throughout the manuscript to conform to the recommendations of the journal submission guidelines.