Author’s response to reviews

Title: Determinants of patterns of maternal and child health service utilization in a rural community in South Eastern Nigeria

Authors:

Chuka Agunwa (chukaagunwa@gmail.com)
Ikechukwu Obi (obinuel@gmail.com)
Anne Ndu (anne_ndu@yahoo.com)
Babatunde Omotowo (babatatundeomotowo@yahoo.com)
Chinedu Idoko (chineduartthur@yahoo.com)
Ancilla Umeobieri (ancikate2006@yahoo.com)
Elias Aniwada (eaniwada@gmail.com)

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1. Editor comment: I do not feel this has been fully addressed as you state in conclusion:“Furthermore, the way health facilities and their staff are perceived by rural women affect how they use these services and should be considered in programs which seek to reduce maternal and child mortality.” But you present no data in results on this topic – please add these results.

Author's comments: Dear Editor, table 5 depicts the relationship between perception of the health facility and health workers and use of family planning and delivery services with p values of 0.014 and 0.047 respectively. This was the basis for the statement you referred to above.

2. Reviewer comment: No explanation on choice of variables for logistic regression

Author Comment: Variables which had significant association with 1 or more service utilizations were entered into the regression model.

Editor comment: Please state this sentence in manuscript either in methods or at beginning of paragraph discussing logistic regression results.
Author's comment: As instructed, the required explanation has been included in the methods section of the manuscript and highlighted.