Author’s response to reviews

Title: Assessing medical impoverishment and associated factors in health care in Ethiopia

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Author’s response to reviews:

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BMC International Health and Human Rights

Cover Letter

Re: Assessing medical impoverishment and associated factors in health care in Ethiopia – second revised manuscript

Dear Editor,

Thank you for allowing us to re-revise our manuscript entitled “Assessing medical impoverishment and associated factors in health care in Ethiopia”

The third reviewer have provided important comments that have improved the manuscript. We have addressed all the concerns of the reviewer. More specifically, we have done disaggregated estimates of impoverishment by region, residential area, and gender. We have also added descriptive statistics of the survey and edited the entire manuscript to improve the language.

Changes to the text in the manuscript are provided with track changes. We have also included a point by point response to each comment.

I ask you to consider our revised manuscript for publication in the BMC International Health and Human Rights.

Yours sincerely,

Amarech Obse, PhD
Health Economics Unit
Point by point response

Reviewer reports:

Sanjay K. Mohanty (Reviewer 3):

Response: Thank you for reviewing the paper and providing us constructive comments.

The paper need to improve in quality of writing and analyses.
Response: we have edited the entire manuscript to improve the English.

Tables and graphs are not sufficient
Provide a descriptive statistics of survey- A table
Response: Descriptive statistics of the survey is now provided on page 9-10.

Second, the national estimate is not sufficient.
Do a disaggregated analyses by geographical regions
The national estimate conceal large variations across regions
Response: A disaggregated analysis is done by region, residential area, and gender. This is presented on page 11-12. Only selected estimates are discussed in the paper, detailed result is presented in appendix.

Editorial comments:

Response: Thank you for reviewing the paper as well as sending it to a third reviewer, the additional analysis was necessary.

1) Please provide the abstract of your study on a page following your title page and not on the same page as you have this currently.

Response: the abstract is moved to the second page - the page next to the title page.
2) You state in your 'Ethics approval and consent to participate' section that 'This paper uses secondary data that have received ethics approval'. If you are carrying out a secondary analysis, this would not require ethics approval. Therefore please amend your statement to say that 'As we are carrying out a secondary data analysis, ethics and consent are not required'.

Response: the ‘Ethics approval and consent to participate’ statement is edited as suggested. Please see page 20.

(3) Please provide an 'Acknowledgements' section in your 'Declarations' as stated here: https://bmcinthealthhumrights.biomedcentral.com/submission-guidelines/preparing-your-manuscript/research-article. Here you should please acknowledge anyone who contributed towards the article who does not meet the criteria for authorship including anyone who provided professional writing services or materials. If you do not have anyone to acknowledge, please write "Not applicable" in this section.

Response: a statement is added to the acknowledgment section. Please see page 21.