**Author’s response to reviews**

**Title:** Survival status and factors associated with treatment outcome of severely malnourished children admitted to Ayder Referral Hospital: A cross-sectional study

**Authors:**

Haftay Mezgebe (haftay.berhane@mu.edu.et)
Tefsay Atey (tesmar11@gmail.com)
Mengistu Girma (mengistugirma427@yahoo.com)

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**Author’s response to reviews:**

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Title: Survival status and factors associated with treatment outcome of severely malnourished children admitted to Ayder Referral Hospital: A cross-sectional

Authors:

Mengistu Girma (mengistugirma427@yahoo.com)
Tefsay Mehari (tesmar11@gmail.com)
Haftay Berhane (haftay.berhane@mu.edu.et)

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**Author's response to reviews:**

Dear Reviewers,

Thank you for taking the time to review the manuscript. We have made substantial revision based on the comments that we receive from you. The comments are well taken and addressed in the revised manuscript.
Title: Survival status and factors associated with treatment outcome of severely malnourished children admitted to Ayder Referral Hospital: A cross-sectional

General

We made substantial editions and formatting of the manuscript.

Specific

Abstract section

Line 1 page 2: the word `SAM` is deleted and `morbidity and` is added.

Line 5 page 2: `the main purpose of this study` is deleted and `the` is added

Line 6 page 2: the word `SAM` is deleted and extended to `severe acute malnutrition`

Line 7 page 2: `in Ayder referral hospital` is deleted

Line 8-11 page 2: the sentence `employed on 195 study participants from March 24, 2015 to June 7, 2015 in Ayder Referral Hospital using a systematic random sampling technique` is deleted and `conducted on 195 patients, selected using systematic random sampling technique, from 24-Mar-2015 to 7-Jun-2015` is added.

Line 14-15 page 2: `SAM is carried out` was deleted and `the disease were determined` is added instead.

Line 16-17 page 2: `The association was declared statistically significant` is deleted and `Statistical significance was declared` is added.
Line 20 page 2: `had been recovering` is deleted and `were recovered` is added.

Line 22 page 3: `absence of` is deleted and `free from` is added.

Line 29-30 page 3: `Deworming medication use and presence` is deleted and `absence, and deworming medication use` is added.

Line 31 page 3: `and poor, respectively` is deleted

Background section

In the background section, we made extensive editions and hence, it difficult to describe all the points what amendments exactly have been made. But in the track-change, we have tried to indicate the amendments.

Methods and Participants section

Line 1 page 6: The phrase `employed from March 24, 2015 to June 7, 2015` is deleted and is replaced by `conducted from 24-Mar-2015 to 7-Jun-2015`

Line 3 page 6: The phrase `on the other hand` is deleted and replaced by `where as`. In the same line `with SAM` is added.

Line 4 page 6: the phrase `with SAM` is deleted

Line 5-6 page 6: the phrase `aged 6-59 months` is displaced in the same line

Line 6 page 6: the phrase `or care givers` is added
The word `Approximately` is deleted and replaced by `On average`.

The phrase `and clinical` is added.

The phrase `status of` is added.

The phrase `To maximize quality of the data` is deleted and the word `Moreover` is replaced instead.

The phrase `Descriptive statistics such as frequency, percentage, mean and standard deviation were also employed to` is deleted and is replaced by `In order to`.

The sentenced `descriptive statistics such as frequency, percentage, mean and standard deviation were employed` is added.

The sentence `Factors were identified as statistically significant when p-value < 0.05 at 95 % confidence interval [CI]` is moved from line 30-31 to 34-35.

The sentence `The association was declared significant at p < 0.05` is deleted.

The word `noticed` is replaced by `shown`.

The phrase `children with SAM` is replaced by `the patients`.

The word `Children` is replaced by `study participants`.
of the medications` is added

`overall` is added

`been recovering` is replaced by `recovered`

`children with SAM` is replaced by `patients`

`in the univariate analysis`, and the is replaced by `Accordingly, the`

`recovery` is replaced by `recovered`

`of acute febrile illness` is deleted and `the` is replaced instead of `this`

`using` is added

Discussion section

The word `other` is added

The word `better` is replaced by `relatively shorter`

`equipped with modern and relatively skilled health care providers` is deleted and replaced by `and supposed to transfer-out recovered patients towards nearby health institutions. Moreover`
These patients are and hence antibiotics could be prescribed customarily as death rate, defaulting rate, non-respondent rate and transferred out rate are not in line.

Thus in the present study above research are not in line.

Despite there is no clear justification of these discrepancies approximately 20 days), low nutritional value of the commonly ingested foods.
Line 24 page 12: `supported by` is replaced by `congruent with`.

Line 25-26 page 12: `that showed an association of SAM with an inappropriate infant and young child feeding practice` is deleted.

Line 28 page 12: `that` is deleted.

Line 31 page 12: `negative` is replaced by poor and `positive` is replaced by good.

Line 35 page 12: `routinely` is deleted.

Line 36 page 12: `as part of their management modality` is added.

Line 37 page 12: `deworming` is replaced by `these`.

Line 39 page 12: `gastrointestinal` is added.

Line 46 page 13: `During the transition phase` is replaced by `Another finding revealed in this study was that`.

Line 46 page 13: `by` is replaced by `using`.

Line 47 page 13: `by` is replaced by `using`.

Line 50-51 page 13: `Factors associated with treatment outcome could have been preponderantly identified using a longitudinal research designs than` is added.
Line 52 page 13: `present` is added

Line 52-53 page 13: `did not allow a follow-up, which could have provided a better design for identifying the factors associated with treatment outcome` is deleted

Line 54 page 13: `wider context` is replaced by `broader milieu`

Conclusion section

Line 1 page 13: `severe acute malnutrition` is replaced by `SAM`

Line 2 page 13: `the usage of` is deleted

Line 2 page 13: `use` is added

Line 3 page 13: `positive` is replaced by `good`

Line 4-5 page 13: `The Kaplan-Meier survival analysis indicated that having weight for height of > 85` is replaced by `having WFH of >70`

Line 5 page 13: `mid-upper arm circumference` is replaced by `MUAC`

Line 7 page 13: `ready-to-use therapeutic food` is replaced by `RUTF`

Line 7-8 page 13-14: `the treatment by` is deleted
List of abbreviation section

Line 2 page 14: `DFID, Department of International Development` is deleted

Authors` contribution section

Line 2-3 page 15: `MG involved in the conception and design of the study, developed data
collection tools, supervised data collection, analyzed data and involved in manuscript writing and
editing` is moved to line 1-2 of page 15

Kindest regards,

Haftay Berhane, on behalf of all authors