Author’s response to reviews

Title: Determinants of appropriate complementary feeding practice among mothers having children 6-23 months of age in rural Damot Sore district, Southern Ethiopia; a community based cross sectional study

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Response for reviewer’s inquiries

Q1: What is the definition of appropriate complementary feeding?

Answer: It was indicated at the methodology section

Q2: How existing indicators were combined?

Answer: Microsoft Excel was used to compute the composite indicators of appropriate complementary feeding. We used the standard IYCF questionnaire which recommends the open ended questions. Timely initiation was category as 1; if the mothers responds that she started feeding her child CF at six months of age and 0; if she started before or after six months. Minimum acceptable diet was calculated from two other indicators (minimum dietary diversity and minimum meal frequency), as indicated in operational definition. We declared complementary feeding as appropriate; if the mother responds correctly to all four indicators, and inappropriate; if at least one indicator was not correctly fulfilled. As minimum acceptable diet was composed of two indicators (MDD and MMF), we can say that ACF was indicator composed of two indicators (TICF and MAD). However for the sake of clarity we elaborated as we used four indicators. We think as they are the same sayings.

Q3: How Gots were selected and how many gots were there in each kebele?

Answer: In the study area every kebele contains three gots each. We only allocated sample for gots proportionally; meaning that all available gots were for better representativeness.
Q4: How study subjects were selected?

Answer: Study subjects were selected from a got until the required proportional sample attained

Q5: Definition of timely initiation of complementary feeding for infant and young child feeding.

Answer: The definition we indicated was operational definition for small survey. The denominators should be the same to combine those four indicators.

Q6. The issue of figure and table titles: it was indicated in legend section based on BMC manuscript standard.