Author’s response to reviews

Title: NUTRITIONAL VALUE OF SCHOOL MEALS AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO ENERGY AND NUTRIENT INTAKES OF RURAL SCHOOL CHILDREN IN ENUGU AND ANAMBRA STATES, NIGERIA

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Thank-you for responding to the comments of the reviewers of the first draft of your manuscript. In most cases suitable edits have been made as suggested or a plausible explanation has been provided for not making the suggested changes. My only suggestion would be to place the statement about limitations at the end of the discussion eg after L410, rather than as a separate heading after the conclusions.

Thank you. The correction has been made.

1. Although I still feel the introduction is long, if the journal editor is ok with the length, then there's nothing wrong with what is presented. 2. It still may not be clear to a reader what you mean by "Samples (20 g) of cooked foods were collected from each of the three primary schools on 5 consecutive schools days.". Do you mean that you collected 20 g of each of the cooked food from each school (i.e. a sample of 20 g x number of foods from each school)? Or 20 g of a "composite" of all foods at each school (ie. 20 g for each of 3 schools, made up of all of the foods within each school)? I suggest you be more clear with this language. 3. Ok.

4. Ok. 5. Thank you. Your revised discussion addresses my request. 6. Ok. 7. OK.

The fact is that 20 g of each cooked food was collected for analysis. The analysis was on the individual foods. The foods were not mixed together to obtain a composite. We also showed the results of the individual food as analysed. For example, okpa which was consumed with pap was analysed alone while the value for pap was obtained from the food composition table. Rice and
beans was a one-pot meal and as such analysed together after homogenising it. Please see line 119.