Author’s response to reviews

Title: Prevalence of initiation of complementary feeding at 6 months of age and associated factors among mothers of children aged 6 to 24 months in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

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Response for editor comments:

1. Editor: Seek reason for use of verbal consent rather than written consent.

Authors: The following reason is added in states section “…The IRB has approved the informed verbal consent, which was embedded with the questionnaire, together with the study proposal. The reason for verbal consent use rather than written consent was that it was clear that mothers’ educational level in the country is not uniform as there are still mothers with no formal education so that it would be very difficult to take a finger print from all participants and make the consent uniform. Therefore, considering the background of the study participants and the nature of the study in particular, the IRB believed for this study verbal consent would be appropriate.”…

2. Editor: Request to upload the English questionnaire

Authors: The English questionnaire used in this study is uploaded as a supplementary file.
3. Editor: To make availability of data and material upon request from the corresponding author.

Authors: It is corrected as “Data available is made to avail upon request from the corresponding author”.

4. Editor: Text overlap with previously published work in the last two lines of page three and the first three lines of page four --reformulate?

Authors: It is re-written as “…, late introduction of complementary foods may reduce exposure to microbial contaminants through food and other vehicles. However, as infants begin to explore their environments around 6 months of age, they will be exposed to different contaminants. Thus, six months of age is the appropriate age to introduce complementary foods”. The already cited reference is re-cited.

5. Editor: Request to upload the single, final and clean manuscript, and all relevant additional files.

Authors: all the comments are considered and included in the manuscript accordingly. The revised manuscript, the study questionnaire, IRB approval letter, and the response for the editors’ comment are uploaded as a separate document accordingly.