Author’s response to reviews

Title: UPTAKE OF MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE DIET AMONG CHILDREN AGED 6-23 MONTHS IN ORTHODOX RELIGION DURING FASTING SEASON IN RURAL AREA, DEMBECHA, NORTH WEST ETHIOPIA

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Author’s response to reviews:

Date 013/01/2019

To: BMC Nutrition

From: Wubetu Woyraw

Subject: Letter for third revision in response to editor comments

Dear editor, thank you for your unreserved comment and guidance for the improvement of the manuscript. We try to address all requested revisions. The revised manuscript is added as without track change in the system. Line by line responses were written as follow.

Regards

Wubetu Woyraw

On the behalf of authors

Editor comments with line by line responses
1. In your Ethics approval and consent to participate subsection of the Declarations, please include a statement detailing whether study participants provided consent to participate in your research. Please clarify if consent was provided in written or verbal form.

Answer: corrected as Verbal consent was taken from each participant after the purpose of study was explained. (Declarations section, page 18 and line 353-354)

2. We request that you upload English language versions of all questionnaires developed specifically for use in this study as supplementary files.

Answer: uploaded as supplementary file in the system.

3. In accordance with BMC submission guidelines, please ensure that all figures are uploaded as separate, individual files in the file inventory. Additionally, we kindly ask that you remove the titles and legends from these files. Figure titles and legends should be located in their own section labeled “Figure titles and legends” which is to be located directly after the References section.

Answer: figure is uploaded in the file inventory in the system and Figure titles and legends located after reference (page 22 line 461-463)

4. Unfortunately, we have found multiple occasions of misspellings, incorrect tenses, and general grammatical mistakes throughout your paper.

Answer: corrected as commented throughout the manuscript.

5. Please revise the section heading which reads as “Conclusion and Recommendation” so that it instead reads as simply “Conclusions.”

Answer: revised as commented (conclusion part, page 18, line 331)

6. While assessing your manuscript we found several instances where the text displayed overlap with other previously published works

6.1 Overlap with this previously published work was found mainly in lines 65 – 68

Answer: reformulated as in developing countries including Ethiopia, feeding infants and children with diversified diet is practiced inappropriately. In Africa less than one-third and one-half of children aged between 6-23 months met the minimum criteria for dietary diversity and meal frequency, respectively. That is why the prevalence of stunting in African countries increases threefold during the first two years of life (background section, page 1, and line 61-68)
6.2 Overlap with this previously published work was found mainly in lines 75 – 78

Answer: reformulated as around fifty-seven percent of death in under-five children in Ethiopia is accounted for by inappropriate complementary feeding practices. Malnutrition below two years of age leads children to become vulnerable to growth retardation, delayed mental development, micronutrient deficiencies, and common childhood illnesses and death. (Background section, page 1, and line 72-75)

6.3 Overlap with this previously published work was found mainly in lines 56 – 58

Answer: reformulated as early initiation of breastfeeding, exclusive breastfeeding, implementing complementary feeding, consumption of diversified diet, adequate meal frequency, and consumption of iron fortified foods are core indicators for monitoring feeding practices of infants and children (background section, page 1, and line 55-58)

6.4 Overlap with this previously published work was found mainly in lines 84 – 88

Answer: reformulated as according to Ethiopian demographic health survey data analysis, consumption of animal source by orthodox religion followers children were less than other religion follower families. Both minimum dietary diversity and meal frequency practices were affected by age of a child, birth order of index child, religion, and media exposure of mother (background section, page 2, and line 77-80)

6.5 Overlap with this previously published work was found mainly in lines 121 – 123.

Answer: reformulated as A result from analysis of ten Sub Saharan countries' demographic and health surveys between 2010 and 2013 revealed that 18% of children aged 6–23 months met minimum acceptable diet. (Background section, page 3, and line 109-110)

6.6 Overlap with this previously published work was found mainly in lines 197 – 205.

Answer: reformulated as Minimum acceptable diet was the dependent variable of this study. Minimum dietary diversity: Proportion of children aged 6–23 months who received four or more food groups from the seven food groups during the previous 24 hours. (Method section, page 12, and line 187-189)

7. At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files.

Answer: uploaded as commented