

RETRACTION NOTE

Open Access



# Retraction Note: Application of 4% chlorhexidine to the umbilical cord stump of newborn infants in lower income countries: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Aklilu Abrham Roba<sup>1\*</sup>, Maleda Tefera<sup>1†</sup>, Teshager Worku<sup>1†</sup>, Tamirat Tesfaye Dasa<sup>1†</sup>, Abiy Seifu Estifanos<sup>2†</sup> and Nega Assefa<sup>1†</sup>

**Retraction Note: *Matern Health Neonatol Perinatol* 5, 16 (2019)**  
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s40748-019-0111-y>

This article [1] has been retracted by the Editors in Chief.

After publication, errors were identified and brought to the attention of the authors. These included errors in data abstraction from the included trials and the erroneous pooling of data, using meta-analysis, which had been derived via different analytic methods within the primary trials (e.g. intention-to-treat trial results were used from some of the included trials and per-protocol results from others).

These errors have rendered the conclusion of primary outcome (a reduction in neonatal mortality in lower income countries following topical application of 4% chlorhexidine to the umbilical cord stump) and its recommendation invalid while secondary outcomes [omphalitis and cord separation time] are not affected.

They also affected Figs. 2 and 3. The authors have been given an opportunity to re-submit their work once the errors are corrected.

Authors Aklilu Abrham Roba, Tamirat Tesfaye Dasa, Nega Assefa, Teshager Worku and Abiy Seifu Estifanos agree with this retraction. Author Maleda Tefera did not respond to the correspondence from the journal regarding this retraction notice.

#### Author details

<sup>1</sup>College of Health and Medical Sciences, Haramaya University, Harar, Ethiopia. <sup>2</sup>School Of Public Health, Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Published online: 16 June 2020

#### Reference

1. Roba, et al. Application of 4% chlorhexidine to the umbilical cord stump of newborn infants in lower income countries: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Matern Health Neonatol Perinatol*. 2019;5:16. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40748-019-0111-y>.

The original article can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40748-019-0111-y>.

\* Correspondence: [aklilimnathserah@gmail.com](mailto:aklilimnathserah@gmail.com)

<sup>†</sup>Aklilu Abrham Roba, Maleda Tefera, Teshager Worku, Tamirat Tesfaye Dasa, Abiy Seifu Estifanos and Nega Assefa contributed equally to this work.

<sup>1</sup>College of Health and Medical Sciences, Haramaya University, Harar, Ethiopia  
Full list of author information is available at the end of the article



© The Author(s). 2020 **Open Access** This article is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License, which permits use, sharing, adaptation, distribution and reproduction in any medium or format, as long as you give appropriate credit to the original author(s) and the source, provide a link to the Creative Commons licence, and indicate if changes were made. The images or other third party material in this article are included in the article's Creative Commons licence, unless indicated otherwise in a credit line to the material. If material is not included in the article's Creative Commons licence and your intended use is not permitted by statutory regulation or exceeds the permitted use, you will need to obtain permission directly from the copyright holder. To view a copy of this licence, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>. The Creative Commons Public Domain Dedication waiver (<http://creativecommons.org/publicdomain/zero/1.0/>) applies to the data made available in this article, unless otherwise stated in a credit line to the data.