



Corrigendum

Effect of routine iron–folic acid supplementation among rural pregnant women living in low- and high-groundwater-iron areas in Bangladesh – CORRIGENDUM

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Original text and correction:

The authors mistakenly used ‘mg/dl’ instead of ‘g/dl’ to express Haemoglobin concentration; please see corrections below.

ORIGINAL TEXT (page 1, Abstract)After supplementation, the mean changes in Hb concentration in the women in the low-groundwater-Fe areas (0.10 mg/dl) was higher than that in the pregnant women in the high-groundwater-Fe areas (–0.08 mg/dl; $P = 0.052$).**CORRECTION**After supplementation, the mean changes in Hb concentration in the women in the low-groundwater-Fe areas (0.10 g/dl) was higher than that in the pregnant women in the high-groundwater-Fe areas (–0.08 g/dl; $P = 0.052$).**ORIGINAL TEXT (page 7, Results)****Table 2** Haemoglobin, serum ferritin and folate concentrations in the study participants at baseline and after 3.5 months supplementation period, and the difference between baseline and post supplementation, by areas with low- and high-iron in the groundwater

Variable	High iron area <i>n</i> 203			Low iron area <i>n</i> 192			<i>P</i> -value**
	Mean*	95 % CI		Mean*	95 % CI		
Haemoglobin (mg/dl)							
Baseline	11.43 ^{a,x}	11.29	11.57	11.21 ^{a,y}	11.06	11.35	
Post	11.29 ^b	11.15	11.42	11.37 ^b	11.24	11.50	
Changes (Baseline-post-supplementation)	–0.08	–0.20	0.04	0.10	–0.03	0.22	0.052
Serum ferritin (µg/dl)***							
Baseline	25.80 ^{a,x}	23.22	28.67	19.25 ^y	17.06	21.73	
Post	22.23 ^{b,x}	20.34	24.31	17.86 ^y	16.22	19.66	
Changes (Baseline-post-supplementation)	–4.97	–6.86	–3.07	–7.21	–9.16	–5.26	0.120
Serum folate (ng/ml)							
Baseline	8.35 ^{a,x}	7.90	8.80	9.10 ^{a,y}	8.61	9.60	
Post	13.44 ^b	12.88	14.01	13.19 ^b	12.62	13.77	
Changes (Baseline-post-supplementation)	4.82	4.28	5.37	4.40	3.84	4.96	0.303

*Repeated measures ANOVA with time as repeated measures, was performed.

^{a,b}Mean values within a column (within each iron area) with unlike subscript letters were significantly different ($P < 0.05$).^{x,y}Mean values across the rows for each of the variables (at each time point) with unlike subscript letters were significantly different ($P < 0.05$).

**Based on the general linear model with change in concentration as the dependent variable and adjusted for corresponding baseline value, total number of tablets consumed, husband's occupation and possession of cultivable land.

Serum ferritin was adjusted for elevated serum CRP and AGP, by mathematical correction.

****P*-values based on log-transformed serum ferritin concentrations.

**CORRECTION****Table 2** Haemoglobin, serum ferritin and folate concentrations in the study participants at baseline and after 3-5 months supplementation period, and the difference between baseline and post supplementation, by areas with low- and high-iron in the groundwater

Variable	High iron area <i>n</i> 203			Low iron area <i>n</i> 192			<i>P</i> -value**
	Mean*	95 % CI		Mean*	95 % CI		
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Baseline	11.43 ^{a,x}	11.29	11.57	11.21 ^{a,y}	11.06	11.35	
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ORIGINAL TEXT (page 9, Results)

The sample size, denoted by 'n', in Table 4 was also incorrectly reported.

Table 4 Haemoglobin, serum ferritin and folic acid concentrations in the study participants without haemoglobinopathies at baseline and after 3-5 months supplementation period, and the difference between baseline and post supplementation, by areas with low- and high-iron in the groundwater

Variable	High iron area <i>n</i> 203			Low iron area <i>n</i> 192			<i>P</i> -value**
	Mean*	95 % CI		Mean*	95 % CI		
Haemoglobin (mg/dl)							
Baseline	11.58 ^x	11.44	11.72	11.29 ^{a,y}	11.14	11.44	
Post	11.44	11.30	11.59	11.48 ^b	11.33	11.62	
Changes (Baseline-post-supplementation)	-0.06	-0.19	0.07	0.11	-0.03	0.24	0.101
Serum ferritin (µg/dl)***							
Baseline	25.46 ^{a,x}	22.61	28.68	18.92 ^y	16.60	21.57	
Post	22.39 ^{b,x}	20.27	24.73	17.44 ^y	15.76	19.30	
Changes (Baseline-post-supplementation)	-4.71	-6.82	-2.60	-7.64	-9.78	-5.51	0.068

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Table 4 Haemoglobin, serum ferritin and folic acid concentrations in the study participants without haemoglobinopathies at baseline and after 3.5 months supplementation period, and the difference between baseline and post supplementation, by areas with low- and high-iron in the groundwater

Variable	High iron area <i>n</i> 165			Low iron area <i>n</i> 162			<i>P</i> -value**
	Mean*	95 % CI		Mean*	95 % CI		
Haemoglobin (g/dl)							
Baseline	11.58 ^x	11.44	11.72	11.29 ^{a,y}	11.14	11.44	
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Changes (Baseline-post-supplementation)	-0.06	-0.19	0.07	0.11	-0.03	0.24	0.101
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ORIGINAL TEXT (page 9, Discussion)

In the present study, we found a 0.10 mg/dl increase in Hb concentration only in the pregnant women living in the low-groundwater-Fe areas after IFA supplementation; this finding reinforces the effect of increased erythropoiesis due to increased Fe availability.

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Reference

Ahmed F, Khan MR, Chowdhury IA, Raqib R, Roy AK & Chowdhury R (2019). Effect of routine iron-folic acid supplementation among rural pregnant women living in low- and high-groundwater-iron areas in Bangladesh. *Public Health Nutr*, 1–12. doi: 10.1017/S1368980019001617