Author’s response to reviews

Title: Rapid semi-automated quantitative multiplex tandem PCR (MT-PCR) assays for the differential diagnosis of influenza-like illness

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Dear Dr Alam

thankyou fpr your comments

I have put in the Declaration re Ethics as requested.

However, I am having a bit of trouble following your instructions - your formatting instructions for Technical Advances say that

"The description of the method and all details of the development and testing should be presented in the Results section. The Methods section at the end of the manuscript should be reserved for the technical details necessary to allow others to replicate the method, and can be omitted if this information is provided elsewhere in the manuscript."

Your site also states that

"Manuscripts for Technical advances submitted to BMC Infectious Diseases should be structured identically to Research articles".

and (for Research Articles):

"The Results and Discussion may be combined into a single section or presented separately. ... The results and discussion sections may also be broken into subsections with short, informative headings."

I have therefore removed the Results subheading and changed Methods to Methods and Results

I have left all the subheadings in so I hope you are happy with the format otherwise.
I have changed all the tabulated sequence references in Table 1 to conform.
I have also removed the footnotes/Fig Legs which were duplicated in the tables to conform.

Please accept my apologies and advise if I need to do anything else to facilitate further progress.

Jon Iredell