Author’s response to reviews

Title: Sero-prevalence and risk factors for Hepatitis B infection among health care workers in a tertiary Hospital in Uganda

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Author’s response to reviews:

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04th September 2009

The editor,
BMC Infectious Diseases
Dear Sir/Madam
Re: Cover letter for manuscript titled: Sero-prevalence and risk factors for Hepatitis B infection among health care workers in a tertiary Hospital in Uganda.

The purpose of this cover letter is to provide a point by point response to on the revisions made on the original draft.

a) Introduction
The background section has been cut down by more than 200 words i.e. from 634 words to 433 words.

b) Statistics
I have added more statistics as requested including the odds ratios and corresponding p values both in the abstract and main manuscript. Where I had used confidence intervals I left them as such.

c) Sample size estimation
I have provided more details on sample size estimation including the estimation formula i.e. “The estimated sample size was 370 participants assuming a prevalence of HBsAg of 40% one of the highest reported among laboratory technician category of HCW [29]. Sample size was derived using the following formula: (N=Z²#2/PQ/d²), where N=sample size; Z#2=standard normal
distribution abscissa corresponding to 95% confidence interval (1.96); $P=$ proportion of HBsAg reported in similar study noted above (40%); $Q=(1-P)$; and $d=$ desired level of precision (5%). Substituting these figures in the formula gives a figure of 369 which we rounded off to 370.

d) Informed consent
I noted the text that informed consent was “written”.

e) Tables in main manuscript
Tables have been added to the main manuscript as requested.

Yours sincerely
Abdhalah K Ziraba
(Contact author)