Author’s response to reviews

Title: Viral-bacterial co-infection in Australian Indigenous children with acute otitis media.

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Dear Editors at BMC Infectious Diseases,

We resubmit this original research article “Viral-bacterial co-infection in Australian Indigenous children with acute otitis media” after minor revision to address the editorial requests. The details are included below. NOTE: I accepted all previous track changes to highlight the new text changes.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Binks, PhD Scholar

Editors requests:

1) Please can you clarify whether you received written consent from parents for the children to participate in the study.
Informed written consent was obtained from the parents of all the children who participated in the original studies. This consent from clearly explained that the nasopharyngeal swab specimens would be deidentified and used for research purposes to characterise the pathogens present. Further approval was sought from Indigenous community members, the Human Research Ethics Committee of the Menzies School of Health Research and the Department of Human Services (HREC – 07/78) prior to the onset of this work. Sentence added to the Ethics section.

2) Please can you reformat your Authors Contribution section according to our requirements.
I have changed this section as per the instructions by omitting information more related to the “author’s information” section. As the “author’s information” section is optional I have not included a section under this heading.

Minor text amendments:

Minor text changes were made to Figure legends 2 and 3 to improve the language and interpretation of figures.