Author’s response to reviews

Title: Risk factors for secondary transmission of Shigella infection within households: implications for current prevention policy

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Author’s response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor,

Thank you for your ongoing consideration of our paper “Risk factors for secondary transmission of Shigella infection within households: implications for current prevention policy”.

In accordance with your editorial requirements we have made the following amendments:

(1) Please clarify if patient samples were taken as part of standard care.

Samples were indeed taken as part of routine care:

Addition page 4:

“In addition to a fecal specimen, data routinely collected regarding each case included age, gender, occupation, country of birth, dates of departure and return on any recent foreign trips, date of onset of illness and information about the course of the disease”

(2) Request for ethics statement:

Addition page 5:

“As this research was conducted in the context of routine surveillance, no ethical approval was required.”

I hope that you consider these changes sufficient to proceed to peer review.

Thank you in advance,

Yours Faithfully,

Jane Whelan.