Title: Placental malaria is associated with attenuated CD4 T-cell responses to tuberculin PPD twelve months after BCG vaccination

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Monday 5th December, 2011

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to submit the revised manuscript entitled *Placental malaria is associated with attenuated CD4 T-cell responses to tuberculin PPD twelve months after BCG vaccination* to *BMC Infectious Diseases* (MS: 3849432506309672).

We very much appreciate Professor Luty's suggestions throughout the review process, and have edited the manuscript in line with his single suggestion. Our response is appended to this letter. We have also made some minor line-edits that have no bearing on content but that we hope will make for clearer reading, and also a change to the affiliations to reflect the changed status of one of the authors.

I can confirm that none of the authors have any conflict of interest, and that they have approved the current version of the manuscript.

Yours sincerely

David Miles

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Response to reviewer's comments

Minor point: on page 12 the authors have inserted a new paragraph in the discussion that starts by referring to a study [38] that reported altered responses to PPD as a result of filariasis or schistosomiasis but not as a result of INTESTINAL helminth infections as the authors state. A modulatory effect of intestinal helminths on responses to BCG was reported recently by L. Wammes and colleagues (Eur J Immunol, 2010, 40:437).

Authors' response

We appreciate the suggestion, and have edited the sentence and added the suggested reference and one other to clarify the point.