Author's response to reviews

Title: An outbreak investigation of visceral leishmaniasis among residents of Dharan town, eastern Nepal, evidence for urban transmission of Leishmania donovani

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Response to reviewers’ comments

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Dear Editor,

BMC Infectious Disease

Thank you for the opportunity to revise our manuscript. Please find a revised manuscript with response to the suggestions raised by the reviewer 2. As suggested we now added “cases (fever ≥ 2 weeks duration with clinical splenomegaly) were those with Parasitologically confirmed VL cases registered at BPKIHS between January 2000 and December 2008 were enrolled in the study” in the manuscript under study design and case definition section (line 150-152).

We hope that with these modifications the article is now suitable for publication in BMC Infectious Diseases.

Sincerely,

Surendra Uranw

Reviewer’s report (2)

This article has to deal with the possible transmission of *Leishmania donovani* in urban population. Although the question posed is logical and quite self-proven, it is important for the medical community to know that leishmania does not affect only people living in rural areas. Since leishmaniasis is a vector borne diseases the results are quite expected. The fact that this also applies in other endemic areas the article is of interest for publication in an international journal.

Inclusion criteria of cases (description of symptoms) could be added.

Reply: Thank you for the suggestion. As suggested we now added “Cases (fever ≥ 2 weeks duration with clinical splenomegaly) were those with Parasitologically confirmed VL cases registered at BPKIHS between January 2000 and December 2008 were enrolled in the study” under study design and case definition section (line 150-152).