Author's response to reviews

Title: Serum IL-10 as a marker of severe dengue infection

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Prof. Harris,

Thank you for your consideration of our manuscript for publication with BMC Infectious Diseases. We wish to thank the reviewers for reviewing our manuscript and for the positive comments. We have addressed the comments raised by the editor and the revisions made to the manuscript have been tracked.

I will require the following minor revision before acceptance:

(1) Reviewer 3, major compulsory revision 1, discuss the limitation from their study as a result of late presentation potentially biasing the results.
Response: We agree that late presentation definitely could bias the results and we have discussed this in the revised manuscript.

(2) Reviewer 3, major compulsory revision 8, although the authors claimed to have deleted the discussion on HIV, a close scrutiny showed that it was retained. Please omit. If the authors wish to retain, they must provide a good defence.
Response: We are sorry for not deleting this in the previous revised edition of the manuscript. We have done this in the amended version of the manuscript.

(3) Reviewer 4, major compulsory revision 4, provide details of ELISA assay as requested.
Response: The quantitative ELISA was carried out according to the manufactures instructions. For quantitative IL-10 detection, we used pre coated IL-10 quantitative ELISA by Mabtech, Sweden and followed their instructions to carry out these assays. For serum MIF detection pre-coated ELISA plates from Biolegend, USA were used and we followed the manufactures instructions.

(4) Reviewer 4, major compulsory revision 7, discuss this as a limitation of the study.
Response: Thank you for this comment. We have included this in the revised manuscript.

Yours Faithfully,

[Signature]

Dr. Neelika Malavige