Author's response to reviews

Title: Prevalence of measles antibodies among health care workers in Catalonia (Spain) in the elimination era

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

We have rewritten the manuscript considering the reviewer's comments.

Below we enclose a point-by-point response to the concerns of the reviewer.

Reviewer: Ines Steffens

Reviewer's report:
The points raised in my previous review have now been addressed overall., I still would suggest the authors to consider the points below

Minor essential revisions
1. Please include a description of the different groups summarised under ‘HCW’ in this manuscript in the methods part.

We have included a description of HCW in the methods section. We considered HCW all persons, paid and unpaid, working in healthcare settings who had the potential for exposure to patients and/or to infectious materials. HCW included physicians, nurses, other clinical workers (nursing assistants, therapists, technicians, emergency medical service personnel, pharmacists, laboratory personnel, students and trainees) and non-clinical workers (clerical, house-keeping, laundry, security, maintenance, administrative staff and billing).

2. The discussion would profit from being more concise.

Major comment
1. The statement “To ensure that all HCW are immune to the measles virus, immunity against measles should be mandatory for all HCW at the time of
employment” cannot be made without putting it into an ethical and legal context.

On what grounds would such measure be justified? How are the individual rights
of HCW to object vaccination considered? Is there a legal framework for this in
place?

As it needs more multifaceted considerations, I would recommend to omit this
statement.

We agree with your opinion. The statement has multifaceted considerations, therefore,
we have omitted it.