Author's response to reviews

Title: Respiratory virus surveillance in hospitalised pneumonia patients on the Thailand-Myanmar border

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Version: 4 Date: 30 August 2013

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30th August 2013

The editorial team, BMC Infectious Diseases

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: MS1748864178902748, “Respiratory virus surveillance in hospitalised pneumonia patients on the Thailand-Myanmar border”

We would like to thank the reviewer for his additional comment on the above manuscript: we have addressed this as described below.

Reviewer comment: “the authors addressed most of the previous issue. However regarding logistic regression analysis, some more details are warranted. How the independent variables were selected and which variables were adjusted.”

Response: It is unclear to which logistic regression model the reviewer is referring. All models were age-adjusted as stated in the results section. We have updated the “Data management and analysis” section on page 7 with the following sentence: “Multivariate models were constructed to determine relationships between age, viral detection, pneumonia severity (<5 years old only), and antimicrobial use prior to admission.” This has also been made clearer on page 10: “Interestingly, in an age-adjusted analysis, patients who had received an antimicrobial in the two weeks preceding admission were more likely to be RSV PCR positive (AOR 1.7, 95% CI 1.2 – 2.5, \( p = 0.003 \)). No such association was seen for the other viruses.”

We hope that these changes render the manuscript acceptable for publication.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Paul Turner, on behalf of the authors