Author's response to reviews

Title: HIV-1 Drug Resistance-associated Mutations among HIV-1 infected Drug-naive Antenatal Clinic Attendees in Rural Kenya

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Response to Reviewers

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Reviewer comment:
"Please be sure to use the World Health Organization updated list of mutations for surveillance of transmitted drug resistant HIV strains which is a standard for such studies. Moreover, please clearly state that studying resistance mutations in patients with chronic HIV infection (compared to those with acute/recent infections) may severely underestimate the rate of transmission."

Response:
Thank you very much for pointing out this. We have now revised the manuscript and included a section in methods on how transmitted drug resistance mutations were determined using the WHO guidelines.

We have also revised the reference to that effect, which appears as reference 12 on page 10 of the draft:


On studying resistance mutations in patients with chronic HIV infection, we have included a phrase (on page 7) as a limitation on our part and this reads:

“…. patients in this study did not meet the WHO standard for surveillance drug
resistance; it would be hard to establish a definite result on transmitted resistance mutations in such patients with chronic HIV infection. In our setting the study may have underestimated the rate of transmission in this part of Kenya.”

Thank you very much for your advice.