Author’s response to reviews

Title: Development of real-time NASBA assays with molecular beacon detection to quantify mRNA coding for HHV-8 lytic and latent genes

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We agree with Peter Sillikens with regards to the use of the term "cycle" on page 7. As NASBA is a continuous amplification process using the term "cycle" is not clear. We therefore changed it to "measured points" as suggested.

Both reviewers still commented that our assays cannot perform absolute quantifications. We feel that our experiments show that absolute quantification is possible in PBMC and that our assays are indeed quantitative. Therefore, our overall conclusion remains the same.