Author's response to reviews

Title: Micro-geographical variation in exposure to Schistosoma mansoni and malaria, and exacerbation of splenomegaly in Kenyan school-aged children

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We have revised the manuscript in line with the referees comments, and return our manuscript together with this point-by-point answer to the reviewers report

Minor essential revisions

Title page: David Dunnes address has been corrected

Abstract: results line 4 - this has been corrected to 'significantly higher'

Methods: paragraph 3 - an explanation is now given as to why IgG3 responses from the 1st year follow-up were used.

Discussion: paragraph 6 - the text now refers correctly to Gabon and VSA

References: - all references now contain species names in italics

Figure legends: the legends to figure 2 and 3 are now correctly assigned to their figures. A description of the box and whisker plots is now given in figure legend 2. A description of A,B,C and D is given in the methods section of the text. The axes have been re-labelled to read 'OD @ 490 nm'

Major compulsory revisions

A section in the discussion (paragraph 3) has been modified and extended to strengthen the justification for using IgG3 responses as a proxy for exposure to malaria infection. References in support of our argument have been added.