Author's response to reviews

Title: Antibacterial resistance and their genetic location in MRSA isolated in Kuwait hospitals, 1994-2004.

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Dear Sir,

Thank you for considering our manuscript for publication in the BMC Infectious Disease journal. We have read the comments from both reviewers and have addressed the issues raised in revised manuscript.

The point by point response is given in the next page.

Yours sincerely

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Response to reviewers' comments.
Reviewer: Henrik Westh.

1. Comment
I would have liked to see something on antimicrobial usage in Kuwait in the discussion. Especially the high levels of resistance to fusidic acid is remarkable unless this is (or has been) commonly used.

Response
A statement regarding fusidic acid usage in Kuwait hospitals has been included in the discussion, on page 12 (in bold).

2. Comment
What does c2.0 4th line bottom page 8 mean?

Response
This means c 2.0 kb. The kb has been added in the text on page 8 (in bold).

Reviewer: Alasdair Macgowan

1. Comment
Potential bias in the collection of isolates was not assessed.

Response
The isolates were collected consecutively and submitted for typing by different microbiology laboratories. The word "consecutive" has been added to MRSA isolates on page 4 (in bold).

2. Comment
Typing data on clonality of MRSA in Kuwait would have added interest.

Response
Typing data is not presently available for all the isolates. There is an ongoing effort in this direction.