Author's response to reviews

Title: Patterns of sexually transmitted infections in adolescents and youths in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Authors:

Guerino Chalamilla (gchalamilla@muchs-harvard.org)
Judica Mbwana (jm bwna@muchs.ac.tz)
Fred S Mhalu (fmhalu@muchs.ac.tz)
Eunice Mmari (emmari@muchs.ac.tz)
Mtebe Majigo (mmajigo@muchs.ac.tz)
Andrew B Swai (aswai@muchs.ac.tz)
Willy K Urassa (wurassa@muchs.ac.tz)
Eric Sandstrom (eric.sandstrom@karolinska.se)

Version: 7 Date: 16 December 2005

Author's response to reviews: see over
Item #1 It is not clear whether the author is commenting on the initial response or the follow up response. It is the initial response that is important. That is were those who consented to participate similar to those who did not. It seems unlikely to me that those not responding to therapy would have the same demographic profile as those not responding.

The information on should be included in the manuscript

Response: I have included the below statement on page 8 first paragraph in the results section of the manuscript

“Out of 199 patients recruited into the study, culture was done on 110 (55.2%) patients who did not respond after seven days of treatment using syndromic management. These included 28/98 (28.6%) male and 82/101(81.2%) female patients. There was no significant differences on the sexual characteristics including the mean age at coitache, the mean number of lifetime sex partners or mean years of sexual activity among those who had culture done compared to those who had no culture done”