Author's response to reviews

Title: Human T-lymphotropic virus type 1 (HTLV-1) prevalence and quantitative detection of DNA proviral load in individuals with indeterminate/positive serological results.

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear Dr. Simpson,

Following your e-mail dated January 18 with Dr. Taylor's comments (1), we modified our manuscript entitled: Human T-lymphotropic virus type 1 (HTLV-1) prevalence and quantitative detection of DNA proviral load in individuals with indeterminate/positive serological results. In particular: "minor essential revisions"

- Relating to the specificity of the assay. We have stated the number of HTLV-I/II seronegative samples tested for HTLV DNA also in our previous version (please see page 8, lane 7). Moreover, as requested, we specified (page 9) that "all 20 healthy blood donors samples did not showed any detectable fluorescent signal".

Hoping you will now find the paper acceptable for publication in BMC Infectious Diseases, I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely

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(1) the other two referees agree with our final version