Author's response to reviews

Title: Human Papillomavirus in Amniotic Fluid

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BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth
Editor

Dear Editor:

It is my pleasure to submit the revised original work, "Human Papillomavirus in Amniotic Fluid" for consideration in BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth.

There is evidence to suggest that human papillomavirus (HPV) can cross the placenta resulting in in-utero transmission. The goal of this study was to determine if HPV can be detected in amniotic fluid from women with intact amniotic membranes. The following issues were raised by the reviewer.

Minor Essential Revisions

I recommend acceptance of this study by the Journal BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth after the above mentioned revisions have been performed, particularly with regard to the missing tables and the minor ambiguities in the text, including some spelling corrections.

Response

I am not sure what table the reviewer is referring to in the comment. There was no table submitted as part of the manuscript. The data presented in the text represents all of the data. Presenting the data in a table format would not communicate the information that no HPV was found in any of the amniotic samples. Therefore, no changes have been made.

The minor changes in the text have been made on Page 4, line 5: 200 uL instead of 200 ul; last paragraph line 2: 1 uM instead of 1uM; line 3-5: degreesC instead of a superscript 0 and C.

I certify that the above-titled manuscript represents original work and that we have reviewed the final version and approve it for dissemination and/or publication. Neither this manuscript nor a manuscript with substantially similar content under my (our) authorship has been published or is currently being considered for publication by any other journal. I am the corresponding author.

We certify that all individuals listed as authors of this manuscript have participated in conceptualizing the research or content of the manuscript, in writing or critically editing the manuscript, and/or in analysis of
data presented in the manuscript. We certify that we have no financial affiliation/interest (eg, employment, stock holdings, consultantships, honoraria) in the subject matter, materials, or products mentioned in this manuscript.

All authors read and approved the revised manuscript. At the time of submission, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, work site of Dr. Unger a co-author of the manuscript, was a full member of BMC. Thus, we were exempt from the processing charge. This membership expired April 1, 2006 and was not renewed. None of the authors or myself work at institutions that are members of the BMC. Neither do we have the resources to pay a processing fee for manuscript. If the processing fee cannot be waived then we must withdraw the manuscript from further consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Mack T. Ruffin IV, M.D., M.P.H.
Professor