Author's response to reviews

Title: Molecular Identification of Adenovirus Causing Respiratory Tract Infection in Pediatric Patients at the University of Malaya Medical Centre

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Author's response to reviews: see over
17 May 2010

Nina Titmus
Scientific Editor
BMC-series Journals
BioMed Central
Floor 6, 236 Gray's Inn Road
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Dear Ms Nina Titmus,

MS: 1945798523166436

Attached please find manuscript 1945798523166436 – “Molecular Identification of Adenovirus Causing Respiratory Tract Infection in Pediatric Patients at the University of Malaya Medical Centre” which has been revised to accommodate all the reviewer’s comments.

The manuscript has also been edited for English language usage. We have used the Professional Editing Services at www.prof-editing.com to help improve the readability of the manuscript.

Please do not hesitate to contact me shall you need any additional clarification and/or revision.

Sincerely yours,

Sazaly Abu Bakar
Corresponding Author
The following are the specific item by item replies to the reviewer’s comments:

**Reviewer's report**

**Title:** Molecular Identification of Adenovirus Causing Respiratory Tract Infection in Pediatric Patients at the University of Malaya Medical Centre

Version: 2 Date: 2 April 2010

Reviewer: Adriana Kajon

Reviewer’s report:
This new version of the manuscript is significantly improved after the incorporation of reviewers suggestions. The language still has some problems in some sections of the paper and the following corrections are required:

Use of language:
In the abstract on line 3, page 2, the right term is serotype, not type. The same applies to line 4.  
On line 4, replace "depending on the" with "among".

On line 10, replace "of pediatric" with "FROM pediatric"

On line 14, page 2, delete "types" after HAdV.

On line 20, page 2, delete "of them" after the parenthesis.

On lines 22 and 23, delete the word "species" written between parenthesis after the C and B.

On line 1, page 3, replace "of" by "identified as".

On line 4, page 3, reword the sentence to start, "Two isolates were identified as corresponding to HAdV-F."

On line 9, page 3, rewrite the sentence top start "HAdV-1 and HAdV-2 of species C were...".

Delete "species from line 11, page 3.

Line 19, page 4 replace "another two" with "also".

On line 22, page 4, the correct term is serotype, not type.

On line 24, page 4, reword the sentence to read "Viruses causing RTI..."
Line 7, page 5. Reword "under 5 years of age" instead of "below 5 years old"

Response: All of the above recommended changes have been incorporated into the revised manuscript.

On page 6, line 4, what is the accession number of the genome the authors provide nt positions for their primers???

Response: The reference genome used to indicate the nucleotide positions of the primers is NC_001405. The accession number has been included in the manuscript (page 6, line 7).

Reference 31 on page 9, line 16 does not make much sense there. Did the authors intend to compare to what has been observed in other studies? Be careful with the limited number of isolates to draw conclusions.

Response: Reference 31 from the original submission has been removed as it is no longer relevant to the revised manuscript.

The last section of the second paragraph on page 9 starting in line 17 requires revision so that the concepts are more clearly discusses (i.e., the role of potential persistent infections)

Response: The concept and potential role of persistent infection of HAdV in the present study pool is suggested because of the isolation of HAdV-C in HFMD and acute gastroenteritis patients and the association of HAdV-C serotype 1, 2 and 5 with persistent infection in young children. We have included references to support the suggestion (page 9, line 24; page 10, line 2).

Legend for Fig 1: Is it University Malaya Medical Center (as written in the fig legend) or University of Malaya?????

Response: The University of Malaya Medical Center is the correct institution's name used.

In table 2, the correct label for the second column should be "species/serotype" and needs to be fixed.

Response: The second column has been relabelled from 'Genotype' to 'Species/Serotype'