Author's response to reviews

Title: Predictors of antibiotics co-prescription with antimalarial for patients presenting with fever in rural Tanzania

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Response to reviewer’s comments

1. ….major complain has been changed to …major complaint (second line on second paragraph of page 3)

2. ….Tanzania national guideline has been changed to …Tanzania National Guideline (fourth line, second paragraph on page 3)

3. ….unnecessarily usage of antimalarial has been changed to …unnecessarily usage of antimalarials (sixth line, second paragraph on page 3)

4. Currently, hospital the costs for antibiotics has been changed to In hospitals, currently the costs for antibiotics (third line, first paragraph on page 4)

5. The world Health Organization has been changed to The World Health Organization (five line, first paragraph on page 4)

6. ….use of larger number has been changed to …..use of large number (five line, first paragraph on page 4)

7. ….further explained in (18) has been changed to is further explained by Masanja (18) (see last sentence on methodology in page 4)

8. On the day of follow up, the post medication information has been changed to On the day of follow-up, the post-medication information (see sixth sentence under data collection on page 5).
9. table 1 has been changed to See Table 1 (see last line on second paragraph of page 6)

10. 92% of patients has been changed to About 92% of patients (second line, third paragraph on page 6)

11. See figure 1 has been changed to See Figure 1 (see last line, third paragraph on page 6)

12. .....cohort took AL and has been changed to .....cohort took AL, and (see first line on fourth paragraph on page 6)

13. There was no significant difference between patients not tested patients and those tested positive regarding antibiotics co-prescription. The sentence has been revised and now reads There was no significant difference between not tested patients and those tested positive regarding antibiotics co-prescription (see 3rd line under analysis of AL and antibiotic co-prescription on page 7)

14. .....co-prescribed with AL and antibiotics but has been changed to .....co-prescribed with AL and antibiotics, but (see 4th line under analysis of AL and antibiotic co-prescription on page 7)

15. Gender of patients, temperature range and Season has been revised to read Gender of patients, temperature range and season (see fifth line under analysis of AL and antibiotic co-prescription on page 7)

16. .....on table 2 has been changed to .....on Table 2 (see sixth line under analysis of AL and antibiotic co-prescription on page 7)

17. ....56% of patients attending t government has been revised to ....56% of patients attending to government (see line 1 under discussion on page 7)
18. This might be due to the WHO’s integrated management of childhood illness (IMCI) strategy has been revised to and more explanations provided to read. This might be due to the WHO’s integrated management of childhood illness (IMCI) strategy (14). The IMCI strategy, allows children under five years to be presumptively treated on malaria (23). (see line 2 under discussion on page 7)

19. The second paragraph on page 8 has been removed due the fact that it was repeating most of the above mentioned findings.

20. Number of drugs prescribed has been revised to The number of drugs prescribed (first line, of second paragraph on page 8)

21. Analgesics was commonly has been revised to Analgesics were commonly prescribed (see first line on fourth paragraph on page 8)

22. .....the application of antipyretics as according to has been changed to History of fever or presenting fever suggested the use of these Analgesics (see last line page 8)

23. There is a good reason for prescribing analgesics with AL; for patients presenting with fever, might need medicines to manage fever while continuing with antimalarial treatment...has been revised to There is a good reason for prescribing analgesics with AL for patients presenting with fever, as they might need medicines to manage fever while continuing with antimalarial treatment (see first line page 9)

24. Children were more likely to be co-prescribed with antibiotics than older children or adults (table 2) has been changed to Children aged less than five years were more likely to be co-prescribed with antibiotics than those aged 5 years and more (Table 2) (see second line on second paragraph on page 9)
25. Similar observation was found in Zanzibar has been changed to A similar observation was done in Zanzibar (second line on third paragraph of page 9)

26. For positive tested malaria co prescription was given when deemed necessary as clinicians were almost certain of patient’s problem. For those not tested, co prescription was… revised and now reads For patients positive tested with malaria co prescription was given when deemed necessary as clinicians were almost certain of patient’s problem.

27. Those not tested the judgement on co prescription is revised to Co prescription of AL and antibiotics were most commonly done on children below five and those who tested negative for malaria (last line on conclusion on page 10)

28. The recommendation section has been revised