Author's response to reviews

Title: Rubella seroprevalence among primary and pre- primary school pupils at Moi's Bridge location, Uasin Gishu District, Kenya.

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Version: 3 Date: 6 May 2009

Author's response to reviews: see over
**Authors response to reviews**

**Title:** Rubella seroprevalence among primary and pre-primary school pupils at Moi’s Bridge location, Uasin Gishu District, Kenya.

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Version: 2 Date 5 May 2009-05-05

**Authors response to reviews:** see over
**Title:** Rubella seroprevalence among primary and pre-primary school pupils at Moi’s Bridge location, Uasin Gishu District, Kenya.

Version: 1 **Date:** 25 October 2008

**Reviewer:** Antonella De Donno

Comment 1: Conjugate incubation time

- Explanation has been provided as suggested.

Comment 2: Characteristics of study subjects; sex and age

- Categories of sex have been included. Age categories is captured in subsequent figures (FIG.1)

Comment 3: Ethical considerations

- Done

Minor Essential revisions:

Comment 4: Seronegativity rates

- Consistently report seropositivity rates as opposed to seronegativity rate as suggested by reviewers. Corrections done accordingly.

Comment 5: Results

- Table 1: Title changed as suggested by reviewer
- Sentence modification done as indicated by reviewer (pg 4 line 1)
- Figure numbers ascertained

Discussions:

- More recent studies have been included in discussion as suggested by the reviewer. Conclusion captures a directive about vaccination strategy as suggested.
Reviewer: Cinzia A Germinario

Version: 1 Date: 23 October 2008

**Title:** Rubella seroprevalence among primary and pre-primary school pupils at Moi’s Bridge location, Uasin Gishu District, Kenya.

Comment 1: Epidemiological pattern of rubella
   Done in introduction as suggested by reviewer

Comment 2: WHO immunization strategies against rubella
   Two major WHO papers have been cited Ref 4 and 6 on rubella elimination plan as suggested by the reviewer

Comment 3: Introduction
   Explanation has been provided and reference provided (Ref 7. Original sentence has been removed and in its place a more in depth explanation provided.

Comment 4: GMT determination was not done for this study as dried blood spots was used for convenience.

Comment 5: Additional appendix table has been submitted to address the gap in univariate analysis.

Comment 6: Figure 2 removed as suggested by reviewer 3. Statement on seroprevalence of girls was removed as suggested.

Comment 7: Table 2, first variable on age gives chi-square value
Title: Rubella seroprevalence among primary and pre-primary school pupils at Moi’s Bridge location, Uasin Gishu District, Kenya.

Reviewer: Cinzia A Germinario

Version: 1 Date: 29 October 2008

Major compulsory revisions:

1. Explanation has been put in introduction why seroprevalence study is necessary in determining CRS burden
2. Only one figure has been retained with combined sexes as suggested by the reviewer
3. Extra table has been provided as appendix to show all variables included in univariate analysis. Table 2 pg 5 only shows that were fitted in to multivariate analysis.
4. Appendix provides clarity to this comment
5. Sample size calculation has been provided in the methods. Explanation for doing cluster sampling has been given.
6. Refusal rate has been captured as suggested by reviewer. The rate was low therefore characteristics of participants and non-participants were not necessary as suggested by reviewer.
7. Only figure (Fig 1) for all the children has been retained for clarity as suggested in comment 2