Author's response to reviews

Title: The urine dipstick test useful to rule out infections. A meta-analysis of the accuracy.

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Dear Editor,

We thank the reviewers for reviewing the revision of the manuscript, and agree with the comments of Reviewer 1 that still some specific phrasing may mislead the readers. We integrated his/her comments into Abstract and the Recommendations part and made the sentences concerned more specific:

Changes in Abstract under Conclusions (first sentence):
Overall, this review demonstrates that the urine dipstick test alone seems to be useful in all populations to exclude the presence of infection if the results of both nitrites and leukocyte-esterase are negative.

Changes in Recommendations (lines 5-9):
Also in children, pregnant women, surgery or urology populations a negative result for both tests rules out infection, while a positive nitrite test still needs working-up, although the probability of infection increases considerably. In the elderly a negative test result for both tests rules out infection, while a positive nitrite test rules in infection.

Sincerely yours,

dr.W.Deville, MD, PhD