Author's response to reviews

Title: Can HIV testing campaigns expand access and protect individual rights? Provider and client perspectives on the ethics of campaigns ethics in Burkina Faso

Authors:

Alice Desclaux (alice.desclaux@ird.fr)
Odette Ky-Zerbo (kyzerbo_odette@yahoo.fr)
Jean-François Somè (jean.francois.some@undp.org)
Carla Makhlouf Obermeyer (cm39@aub.edu.lb)

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Author's response to reviews: see over
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Dear Editor,

Please find our submission titled « Can HIV testing campaigns expand access and protect individual rights? Provider and client perspectives on the ethics of campaigns in Burkina Faso ». We think that the article would be especially suitable for BMC International Health and Human Rights for several reasons.

In order to reach the goal of Zero transmission, Treatment as Prevention (TasP) strategies for HIV such as ‘Test and Treat’ are being promoted in West African countries, which require the scaling-up of HIV-testing. Yet funding cuts are putting pressure on policy makers to choose among several HIV-testing strategies, without clear criteria regarding the bases of their choices.

Ethics has seldom been used as a criterion to choose interventions in West African countries, mostly because ethical aspects were rarely documented. With this paper, we seek to provide health planners with evidence on a testing strategy that was developed at community level, and how it is perceived by providers and clients, thus contributing to informing policy choices. This article would be particularly relevant for francophone low prevalence West African countries who presently plan to develop HIV-testing campaigns at district level.

We made a few corrections to the first version after receiving a message from the Editorial Journal Office.

Regarding ethics, we added “after receiving participants’ informed consent” (line 141)
We added four sections: Abbreviations, Competing interests, Authors’ information, Endnotes (starting line 513).

With regards.