Author's response to reviews

Title: Does mass drug administration for the integrated treatment of neglected tropical diseases really work? Assessing evidence for the control of schistosomiasis and soil-transmitted helminths in Uganda

Authors:

Melissa Parker (melissa.parker@brunel.ac.uk)
Tim Allen (t.allen@LSE.ac.uk)

Version: 3 Date: 17 November 2010

Author's response to reviews:

Reviewer 1:

Please thank Jan Kolaczinski for taking the time to comment on this paper again.

Minor Essential Revisions

1. We were interested in Kolaczinski’s observation that people working on MDA programmes do not expect a demand for treatment to emerge. A recent paper on process monitoring by staff from SCI and the Ugandan MOH suggests, however, that it is still a part of the rationale for MDA (see Fleming et al 2009.) We have added a footnote and quoted the relevant section as requested.

2. The other three queries were to do with (i) replacing a lower case ‘w’ with an upper case ‘W’; (ii) correcting the spelling of S.haematobium on page 12; and (iii) abbreviating Schistosomiasis Control Initiative to SCI. This has been done.

Reviewer 2

Please thank Bruno Gryseels for reading a revised version of the manuscript. As requested, we have added a statement about ethical clearance. This is at the end of the paper (p.27).