Author's response to reviews

Title: Effectiveness of two antifolate prophylactic strategies against malaria in HIV positive pregnant women in Bangui, Central African Republic: study protocol for a randomized controlled trial (MACOMBA)

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Version: 7 Date: 22 July 2013

Author's response to reviews: see over
Bangui, 22 July 2013

The Editor

Trials Journal (BioMed Central)

Dear Editor

We thank you for the reviews of our manuscript: Effectiveness of two antifolate prophylactic strategies against malaria in HIV positive pregnant women in Bangui, Central African Republic: study protocol for a randomized controlled trial (MACOMBA) by Alexandre Manirakiza, Abdoulaye Sepou, Eugène Serdouma, Samuel Gondjé, Ghislain GB Bata, Sandrine Moussa, Aude Boulay, Jean-Methode Moyen, Olga Sakanga, Lénaig Le-Fouler, Mirdad Kazanji and Muriel Vray

We have taken account of all the language corrections in revising the manuscript which is attached.

Best regards

Alexandre Manirakiza, MD, PhD
Reviewer's report
Title: Effectiveness of two antifolate prophylactic strategies against malaria in HIV positive pregnant women in Bangui, Central African Republic: study protocol for a randomized controlled trial (MACOMBA)
Version: 6 Date: 9 July 2013
Reviewer: Christine Manyando

Reviewer's report:
I. Previous comments adequately attended to?
The typos and language revisions have been corrected; just a few more minor omissions/ inclusions have been noted that will require further attention:
1.1 Under the title “Abstract”, within the Methods/design section; the sentence starting with: All women will provide written consent … has ‘a’ before daily co-trimoxazole which could read better if the ‘a’ is perhaps removed in order to read: daily co-trimoxazole doses (960mg per dose).

Authors’ response: we corrected this phrase as stated by the reviewer

1.2 Under the title “Hypothesis” on page 6, the second part of the first sentence which starts with; perhaps due to a higher plasma concentration of co-trimoxazole, the co-trimoxazole is written co-tromoxazole and therefore needs correction.

Authors’ response: we corrected this phrase as stated by the reviewer

1.3 Under “Participants” on page 7, the second sentence is written: All pregnant women attending at the maternity clinics will be offered…This statement could perhaps be better rephrased by removing ‘at’ in order to read; All pregnant women attending maternity clinics will be offered an HIV test…?

Authors’ response: we corrected this phrase as stated by the reviewer

1.4 On page 9 under “Data collected”, the first sentence ‘after last menstrual period reads; and/ or by measured by uterine’ …. The first ‘by’ could be removed to leave the sentence to read; ‘and/ or measured by uterine….’?

Authors’ response: we corrected this phrase as stated by the reviewer

2. The trial flow chart, the text box next to the ‘inclusion’ text box on the last page: reads ‘Cell blood count’ instead of ‘Blood cell count’…?

Authors’ response: we corrected this phrase as stated by the reviewer

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field
Quality of written English: Acceptable
**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests