**Author’s response to reviews**

**Title:** Multiplex Polymerase chain reaction to diagnose bloodstream infections in patients after cardiothoracic surgery

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**Author’s response to reviews:**

Dear editor,

thank you very much for reviewing the manuscript.

We revised the manuscript according to the editor’s recommendations.

We provide email addresses for all the authors on title page.

The section heading has been renamed to "Background".

A section 'Authors' contributions' has been provided in declarations.

The abstract has been cited and mentioned in the consent of publish section, including a brief sentence stating the abstract has already been published. In addition, the copyright holders permission has been stated in the ‘consent to publish’ statement.
Some paragraphs have been rephrased to avoid textual overlap with other previously published works.

Table 4 has been revised to guarantee anonymity of the individuals.

More information regarding the informed consent have been provided. This paragraph has been moved to the Ethics approval and consent to participate section.

Thank you for receiving our manuscript and considering it for review. Your time and efforts are highly appreciated.

We are looking forward to hearing from you.

On behalf of all authors,

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Fabian Dusse, MHBA