Author’s response to reviews

Title: Factors influencing microbial colonies in the air of operating rooms

Authors:
Ling Fu Shaw (lfu@vghtpe.gov.tw)
Ian Horng Chen (a0746@tpech.gov.tw)
Chii Shya Chen (a0745@tpech.gov.tw)
Hui Hsin Wu (anatom1963@gmail.com)
Li Shing Lai (g49007007@yahoo.com.tw)
Yin Yin Chen (g49007007@gmail.com)
Fu Der Wang (fdwang@vghtp.gov.tw)

Version: 4 Date: 11 Dec 2017

Author’s response to reviews:

Thank you for giving the opportunity to acceptable for publication in BMC Infectious Diseases.

Editor Comments:
1. Please include the email addresses for all authors on the title page. The corresponding author should still be indicated. Please also ensure all email addresses provided in the manuscript and the submission system match.
   Ans 1: We have added the email addresses for all authors on the title page.

2. Please change the initials HHU to HHW in the author contributions section.
   Ans 2: We have changed the initials HHU to HHW.

3. At this stage, please upload your manuscript as a single, final, clean version that does not contain any tracked changes, comments, highlights, strikethroughs or text in different colours. All relevant tables/figures/additional files should also be clean versions. Figures (and additional files) should remain uploaded as separate files.
   Ans 1: We have detailed to recheck our manuscript and all tables.
Some optional editorial suggestions:

Abstract. Page 3, next to last sentence: change to "We suggest that ORs doing complex surgeries with more surgical personnel present should increase the frequency of air exchanges"
Ans: We have revised this sentence.

Page 4. Line 2. Change "including the least" to "with the least"
Ans: We have changed this sentence.

Page 4. 3rd line from bottom change to "colony counts will be relatively lower"
Ans: We have revised this sentence.

Page 5. Line 2. Change to "The target population chosen included various types"
Ans: We have changed this sentence.

Page 5. middle of page. Change to "the types of surgical procedures were selected"
Ans: We have changed this sentence.

Page 6. Sampling and Data Collection. I am not sure what "was awarded" means. Perhaps it can be deleted.
Ans: We deleted ‘the surgical team was awarded and allowed air sampling’.

Page 7. Statistical Analysis. Change to "To account for up to 25% of potential samples lost, a total sample size of 250 surgical procedures was used"
Ans: We have revised this sentence.

Page 10. The authors wrote that their results demonstrated that free fungi and the number of mean bacterial colonies were far from the suggested levels despite the well controlled ventilation system. This is confusing as written the abstract and conclusion both indicate how low the
bacterial colonies were because of the ventilation system. Perhaps the authors wrote "despite" when they meant "because of"

Ans: Thank you for the reminded. We have added "Despite".

Page 11. first paragraph. change to "which may have caused microbial colony counts lower than some..."

Ans: We have revised this sentence.

Page 15. Change to "this study was not performed at multiple locations, only in a single medical center..."

Ans: We have revised this sentence.

Conclusions, page 16. next to last sentence: change to "We suggest that ORs doing complex surgeries with more surgical personnel present should increase the frequency of air exchanges"

Ans: We have revised this sentence.