Author’s response to reviews

Title: Poor Quality Data Challenges Conclusion and Decision Making: Timely Analysis of Measles Confirmed and Suspected Cases Line List in Southern Nation’s Nationalities’ and People Region, Ethiopia

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Author’s response to reviews:

First of all, I would like to thank you (both reviewer and editor) for our time and comments to make this paper more clear. Attempts were made to address your comments and point by point responses are provided below. Some language editions together with other modifications were highlighted (red font used) in main manuscript.

In title, full name of region was added and surveillance data period included (2013-2014) was removed to shorten title. We prefer “retrospective” study design than cross-sectional as it is review of past (data of 2013 and 2014 reviewed in 2015).

Editor Comments:

1. Please provide figure titles/legends under a separate heading of 'Figure Legends' after the References. If Figure titles/legends are within the main text of the manuscript, please move them. Figure files should contain only the image/graphic, as well as any associated keys/annotations. If titles/legends are present within the figure files, please remove them.

Response: Accepted; figure legend is after references and figure is submitted separately. Tables are at the end of document with titles above.

Reviewer reports:

On page 3 lines 8-14 it isn't clear to me what the true aim of study is:
The aim of the study is to give observational data on vaccination status and in delay in healthcare attendance in order to strengthen surveillance and improve outbreak control and prevention?

Response: It was to show vaccination status of sick people and how much (time) sick people stay home before seeking healthcare. The result of vaccination status insists health system to see immunization program as vaccinated people get sick or check their data. Here “delay” used was of community in seeking healthcare than health system response, and result shows majority stay at home propagating disease during first infectious period.

1. Again - Still needs some revisions for it to be published. There is no consistency on capital and low case in some terms. Revise the English grammar some articles are missing, take care of singular and plural in nouns, too.

Response: Accepted; modifications/clarifications made and highlighted

2. Corrected tables 1 and 2, they could easily merge into one table also.

Response: Accepted; as table 1 is in table 2 (last column), table 1 is deleted.

3. Including immunization calendar for measles would be also helpful

Response: In Ethiopia, it is at 9th month (which was stated in discussion part, second paragraph; Page 5, line 42 in previous submission)