Author's response to reviews

Title: Epidemiological characteristics, clinical manifestations, and treatment outcome of 139 pediatric Ebola patients treated at a Sierra Leone Ebola Treatment Center

Authors:

Jia Kangbai (Jia.Kangbai@lrz.uni-muenchen.de)
Christian Heumann (chris@stat.uni-muenchen.de)
Michael Hoelscher (hoelscher@lrz.uni-muenchen.de)
Foday Sahr (fodaysahr1@gmail.com)
Guenter Froeschl (Froeschl@lrz.uni-muenchen.de)

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Author's response to reviews:

Dear Editor,

Thanks for your email. I have attached my response to your inquires below.

1) conflicting reports of clinical effects of EVD on children: The authors mainly mentioned reports on pediatric EVD CFR, but these reports do not seem to show any apparent conflict. The authors should provide more example to support their assertion of conflicting reports of clinical effects of EVD on children. The only thing which is shown at the moment, it the difference in CFR between age groups. And this seems to be quite consistent across the examples presented in this manuscript.

Response: Author has included sufficient citations relating to conflicting reports written by different authors that includes both CFR, epidemiology, clinical symptoms relating to pediatric Ebola cases.

2) The authors suggest that there is a need for a separate formulation of pediatric EVD case definition to handle dissimilarities between clinical symptoms of childhood and adult EVD
cases. However, the manuscript does not explicitly discuss dissimilarities between clinical symptoms of childhood and adult EVD cases and how these differences would make a formulation based on adults EVD case definition not suitable for children cases and vise versa.

Response: Author has included examples showing differences in clinical symptoms reported by the author for pediatric EVD cases and those reported by other authors regarding the clinical symptoms of adult EVD cases.