Author's response to reviews

Title: Underestimated pyrazinamide resistance may compromise outcomes of pyrazinamide containing regimens for treatment of drug susceptible and multidrug-resistant tuberculosis in Tanzania

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Author's response to reviews:

Kilimanjaro Clinical Research Institute,
Moshi, Tanzania,

18 Dec 2018.

The Editor,
BMC Infectious Diseases.

Dear Editor,

Regarding Manuscript entitled Underestimated pyrazinamide resistance may compromise outcomes of new pyrazinamide containing shorter course regimens for multidrug-resistant tuberculosis in Tanzania by Saumu Pazia Juma et al.
We are grateful for the comments and suggestions by the reviewers regarding our manuscript. In the following we have addressed the detailed comments made by the reviewers and indicate the changes we have made.

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<th>No.</th>
<th>Comments</th>
<th>Responses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Reviewer comments</td>
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<td>Lines 42-44: Six of MDR patients had a poor outcome: 5 treatment failure, and 2 deaths = total is 7; there should only be 6 (outcomes are mutually exclusive). Please sort this out. Same thing in page 8, lines 189-193. Kindly also mention 10 (41.6%) among 24 MDR-TB patients with treatment success on these sections, for ease in tracking the numbers.</td>
<td>Thank you for the observation. We have reviewed and re-write the sentence. The sentence now has the meaning; the total number of patients that had poor treatment outcome is 6 and not 7. Five had PZA resistant and among that five, 2 died.</td>
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<td>Regarding the earlier question pertaining to resistance to FQ and injectable, may I suggest that the absence of information on DST to these crucial drugs be cited as a limitation, as treatment failure could have been due to these agents.</td>
<td>Thank you for the observation. We have added that in the limitation of study.</td>
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REQUESTED REVISION FROM STATISTICAL REVIEWER COMMENTS

It would be appropriate if the authors also mention the statistical software used to analyse these results. Also, they should report the values of sensitivity, specificity, positive and negative predictive values obtained in the study."

Thank you for the observation. Information added as requested.

Sincerely yours,

Saumu Pazia Juma