Author’s response to reviews

Title: An epidemiological and molecular study regarding the spread of vancomycin-resistant Enterococcus faecium in a teaching hospital in Bogotá, Colombia 2016

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Author’s response to reviews:

Bogotá D.C., February 28th 2019

Professor
Amy Branch-Hollis
(on behalf of Oliver Cocks)

Editor
BMC Infectious Diseases

Dear Professor Branch-Hollis,

Regarding our manuscript entitled, “An epidemiological and molecular study regarding the spread of vancomycin-resistant Enterococcus faecium in a teaching hospital in Bogotá, Colombia
2016” by Corredor et al., we have fully amended all the minor revisions according to your requests in the last revision round, as follows:

Q1: Please add a “Conclusions” section after the “Discussion” section. This should state clearly the main conclusions of the research article and give a clear explanation of their importance and relevance.

Reply to Q1: A Conclusions section has now been added (Pages 16, lines 339-344).

Q2: The Availability of data and materials section refers to the raw data used in your study and presenting tables and figures is not sufficient to state that all data is contained within the manuscript and additional files. Please only use this statement if you have indeed provided all raw data on which your study is based. We strongly encourage all authors to share their raw data, either by providing it in a supplementary file or depositing it in a public repository and providing the details on how to access it in this section. If you do not wish to share your data, please clearly state this in this section along with a justification. Data availability statements can take one of the following forms (or a combination of more than one if required for multiple datasets):

- The datasets used and/or analysed during the current study available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

- All data generated or analysed during this study are included in this published article [and its supplementary information files].

- The datasets generated and/or analysed during the current study are not publicly available due [REASON WHY DATA ARE NOT PUBLIC] but are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

- The data that support the findings of this study are available from [third party name] but restrictions apply to the availability of these data, which were used under license for the current study, and so are not publicly available. Data are however available from the authors upon reasonable request and with permission of [third party name].

Please note that if you do wish to share your raw data and do not have consent from all patients to publish this data it will need to be de-identified.

Please also note that if you include your raw data as a supplementary file you will need to provide, after the References, a section titled “Additional files” where you list the following information about each of your supplementary files: * File name (e.g. Additional file 1), * Title of data, * Description of data. All additional files will also need to have been cited in the main manuscript.

Reply to Q2: We have now adapted the statement included in the “Availability of data and materials” to include two of your previously suggestions, as follows:
Availability of data and materials: The datasets used and/or analysed during the current study available from the corresponding author on reasonable request. However, most of the data generated or analysed during this study are included in this published article [and its supplementary information files]. (Page 17, lines 374 -377).

Q3: In the section 'Funding', please also describe the role of the funding body in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript.

Reply to Q3: The “Funding” section has now been modified accordingly (Page 17, lines 381-383).

Q4: Please consider the list of authors as it currently stands with reference to our guidelines regarding qualification for authorship (http://www.biomedcentral.com/submissions/editorial-policies#authorship).

Currently, the contributions of author PAA do not automatically qualify them for authorship. In the section “Authors’ contributions”, please provide further clarifications on their contributions, and see our guidelines for authorship below.

An 'author' is generally considered to be someone who has made substantive intellectual contributions to a published study. Authors are expected to fulfil the criteria below (adapted from McNutt et al., Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Feb 2018, 201715374; DOI: 10.1073/pnas.1715374115; licensed under CC BY 4.0):

Each author is expected to have made substantial contributions to the conception OR design of the work; OR the acquisition, analysis, OR interpretation of data; OR the creation of new software used in the work; OR have drafted the work or substantively revised it

AND to have approved the submitted version (and any substantially modified version that involves the author's contribution to the study);

AND to have agreed both to be personally accountable for the author's own contributions and to ensure that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work, even ones in which the author was not personally involved, are appropriately investigated, resolved, and the resolution documented in the literature.

Acquisition of funding, collection of data or general supervision of the research group, alone, does not usually justify authorship.

If these guidelines are not met, we would request the following change of authorship form be filled out and sent to our editorial office. The change of authorship form can be found here: https://resource-cms.springernature.com/springer-cms/rest/v1/content/7454878/data/v5
Reply to Q4: Authors’ contributions have been amended to comply with the guidelines (Page 18, lines 385-395).

Q5: 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.

Reply to Q5: A clean version of the manuscript has been uploaded.

We would like to thank the reviewers for their help.

Thank you and warm regards,

Manuel Alfonso Patarroyo M.D., Dr.Sc.

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