Author’s response to reviews

Title: Investigation of a cross-border case of Lassa fever in West Africa

Authors:
Mory KEITA (morykeita1980@gmail.com)
Georges Alfred Kizerbo (kizerbog@who.int)
Lorenzo Subissi (loresubissi@hotmail.com)
Fodé Amara Traoré (fatraore01@gmail.com)
Ahmadou Doré (doreahmadou@gmail.com)
Mohamed Fode Camara (mohamedfode50@gmail.com)
Ahmadou Barry (abarry@who.int)
Raymond Pallawo (raymondpalla@gmail.com)
Mamadou Oury Baldé (mbalde@who.int)
Nfaly Magassouba (cmagassouba01@gmail.com)
Mahamadou Harouna Djingarey (djingareyh@who.int)
Ibrahima Socé Fall (socef@who.int)

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dear Editor,

Thanks for the opportunity to revise this paper. Our responses to the comments are below, prefixed by ***.

Answer to the Reviewers and Editor
Editor Comments:

1. Please change the section heading “Discussion” to “Discussion and Conclusions”.

***Done (Line 112).

2. 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).

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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.

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If these guidelines are not met, we would request the following change of authorship form be filled out and sent to our editorial office - https://www.biomedcentral.com/submissions/editorial-policies#authorship

***Thank you, done. We realized we did not mention certain essential contributions in the author contributions’ section. We modified it accordingly:

Lines 168-170: MK, FAT, MFC and AD did the field investigation; MK and LS conceived the study; MK, GAK, LS, FAT, AD, MFC, AB, RP, NM, MOB, MHD, and ISF drafted the paper. All authors read and approved the final manuscript. The corresponding author had the final responsibility for the decision to submit for publication.

3. Please state in the cover letter whether the map depicted in figure 2 is your own or taken from another source.

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***Thank you, done. Here is the legend for the Fig 2:
Lines 244-246: Figure 2: Map of the health areas (in green) visited by the case during his illness, ie Diecke in Guinea, and Ganta in Liberia. (Source: Map made in the software ArcGIS 10.2 with shapes files from diva-gis.org).

Reviewer reports:

Elodie Calvez, Ph.D (Reviewer 1): The manuscript is Ok for publication.
I would like to thank the authors for the map it is useful.
I just think the map is not adapted in this version. The small Africa map is perfect but the big map must be focused on the region part where the study was performed.
Add a scale on the map too.
 ***Thank you, done. Please see the new Fig 2.

George Chukwuma, Ph.D (Reviewer 2): Corrections properly effected
***Thank you.