Author’s response to reviews

Title: Low seroprevalence of Zika virus infection among adults in southern Taiwan

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Author’s response to reviews:

Dr. Oliver Cocks
September 19, 2019
BMC Infectious Diseases
RE: Your submission to BMC Infectious Diseases - INFD-D-19-01361

Dear Dr. Cocks,

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to respond to the reviewer’s and the editor’s comments regarding our above-mentioned manuscript. Each of the concerns raised by the reviewers’ and the editor has been clarified and addressed as well as incorporated in our revised manuscript.

Editor Comments:

1. Please address the comments provided by Reviewer 2.

(Reviewer 2): Thanks for the modification and responses. I only have one minor further suggestion. You replied that "more than 20 imported cases of ZIKV infection have been identified in Taiwan. Most of the cases come from Southeast Asian, while imported cases from Latin America and the Caribbean are also reported. There has been no confirmed indigenous case of ZIKV infection in Taiwan.". It could explain the reasonability of using MR766 and Thailand strain. So please add 1-2 sentences to explain why you select these strains while not others.

Response: Thanks for the reviewer’s suggestion. The following sentence has been added in the revised manuscript, Line 155-158.

“The reason why two ZIKV strains were used in this study was that although most of imported cases of ZIKV infection in Taiwan were from Southeast Asia, imported cases from Latin America and the
Caribbean as well as Africa were also reported.”

2. Please change the section heading “Materials and Methods” to “Methods”.
Response: “Materials and Methods” has been changed to “Methods” in the revised manuscript, Line 121.

3. In the “Funding” section of your declarations, please clarify the role of the funding body in the design of the study and collection, analysis, and interpretation of data and in writing the manuscript.
Response: The following sentence has been added in the revised manuscript, Line 339-340.
“The funding bodies did not have any role in the design of the study or sample collection, analysis, or interpretation of data or in writing the manuscript.”

4. we note that Table 2 contains potentially identifiable information. Currently, the age and gender information, in combination with other identifiers, may compromise patient/participant anonymity. Please amend the file to address this issue, by providing ages as age-ranges.
Response: The age ranges of the participants was used in Table 2 in the revised manuscript.

5. 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.
Response: A single, final, clean version of the manuscript and one additional file were uploaded.

We hope this manuscript is suitable for publication in BMC Infectious Diseases. Thank you very much for considering our manuscript submission.

Respectfully yours,

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