Author’s response to reviews

Title: Biosafety and biosecurity requirements for Orientia spp. diagnosis and research: Recommendations for risk-based biocontainment, work practices and the case for reclassification to Risk Group 2.

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Editor Comments:

1. We notice significant text overlap between your manuscript and previously published materials. Please reformulate the large sections of overlapping text present in your Discussion section. Please ensure that, where relevant, these sources are also referenced as appropriate.
Response: Amended – thank you for pointing out this matter. We have revised the discussion section so that there is no overlap with our previous publication.

2. Please include an Ethics approval and consent to participate section in the Declarations.
Response: Amended as suggested

3. Please include an Acknowledgments subsection in your Declarations. The Acknowledgments subsection is your opportunity to acknowledge anyone who contributed towards the article who does
not meet the criteria for authorship including anyone who provided professional writing services or materials. If you have no individuals to acknowledge you may write “Not applicable” in this subsection.
Response: Amended as suggested

4. It was noticed that authors Yazid Abdad and Nicolas Day were not found to be mentioned in the Authors’ contributions subsection of the Declarations. Please ensure that all authors are mentioned in this subsection alongside their contributions to the manuscript/study.
Response: Amended – we have spelt out the full name of the authors so that there is no confusion

5. In the Funding section, 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.
Response: Amended as suggested

6. Please proofread and ensure that when you upload your revised submission it is in the final form for publication. Please remove any tracked changes or highlighting and include only a single clean copy of the manuscript. Should you wish to respond to these revision requests, please include the information in the designated input box only.
Response: We have done this