Author’s response to reviews

Title: Epidemiology of influenza in pregnant women hospitalized with respiratory illness in Moscow, 2012/2013-2015/2016: a hospital-based active surveillance study

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Author’s response to reviews:

Editor,

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth

Dear Editor,

We submit our revised article “Epidemiology of influenza in pregnant women hospitalized with respiratory illness in Moscow, 2012/2013–2015/2016: a hospital-based active surveillance study” for publication in BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth.
We include a point-by-point response to the comments received from the Editor below and provide our revised article in final format for publication, as you have requested.

Thank you for the opportunity to revise our manuscript. We look forward to your decision.

Sincerely,

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Point-by-point response:

Technical Comments from the Editor:

1. Thank you for providing the Ethical Approval and Consent to Participate section. Please clarify whether written or verbal consent was obtained from a parent or legal guardian on behalf of the participants under the age of 16. If the need for parental consent was waived by an IRB or national guidelines indicated that it is not needed in the case of adolescent mothers, please clearly state this in this section.

Authors: In line with the GIHSN protocol, all the patients gave written consent to participate in the study. For the participants under the age of 16, the parents or legal guardians signed the informed consent, according to local legislation and the GIHSN SOP. We have added this to the Ethical Approval and Consent to Participate section on page 17 of the revised manuscript:

“All participants provided written consent. Written consent was obtained from the parents or legal guardians of participants under the age of 16 years, in line with the GIHSN protocol and local legislation.”
2. Please note that if two authors have the same initials, please distinguish between them by designating them with numbers 1 and 2. For example: YZ1 and YZ2. YZ1 would correspond to the author furthest up on the author list.

Authors: This has been modified accordingly.

3. Please clarify the non-financial support provided by The Foundation for the Promotion of Health and Biomedical Research of Valencia Region, that you had mentioned in the competing interest section.

Authors: This is now clarified on page 17:

“ST, LK1, EM1, IK, KK, EM2, LK2, and EB report … non-financial support from The Foundation for the Promotion of Health and Biomedical Research of Valencia Region (FISABIO) during the conduct of the study (scientific counselling, discussion on methods, data quality management and analysis, and provision of the study protocol and questionnaires);”

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Authors: We have followed your instruction and resubmit a single clean copy of the manuscript.