Author's response to reviews

Title: Pitfalls of practicing cancer epidemiology in resource-limited settings: The case of survival and loss to follow-up after a diagnosis of Kaposi’s sarcoma in five countries across sub-Saharan Africa

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Editor:

Thank you very much for considering a revised version of our manuscript entitled “Pitfalls in practicing cancer epidemiology in resource-limited settings: The case of survival and loss to follow-up after a diagnosis of Kaposi’s sarcoma in five countries across sub-Saharan Africa” by Esther Freeman et al. for publication in *BMC Cancer* (Ms. No. 102130603174933). In response to the most recent comments, we have made several changes, which are described below.

*Editors request:*

1.) List of abbreviations

*If abbreviations are used in the text they should be defined in the text at first use, and a list of abbreviations can be provided, which should precede the competing interests and authors' contributions.*

We have provided a list of abbreviations as requested.

2.) Requesting name of ethics committee:

*Please update your ethics statement to include the name of the ethics committee that approved your study.*

3.) Requesting consent statement:

*Please state in the Methods section whether written informed consent for participation in the study was obtained from participants or, where participants are children, a parent or guardian.*

In response to #2 and #3 above, we have added the following information to the end of the first paragraph of the methods section:

“All patients provided written consent for data derived from their care at the participating clinic sites to be used for purposes of research through IeDEA. No children were involved in this study. Ethics committees that reviewed this work were: University of California (San Francisco), Indiana University, Harvard University, Moi University, Mbarara University of Science and Technology, University of Abuja Teaching Hospital, National Hospital of Abuja, IRB of Albert
Einstein College of Medicine/Montefiore Medical Center, Cameroon Ethics Committee, and Malawi National Health Sciences Research Committee.”

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Esther Freeman, M.D., Ph.D.