Author’s response to reviews

Title: Predicting Risk of Avian Influenza A(H5N1) in Egypt: The Creation of a Community Level Metric

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To Dr Nabyonga-Orem, Editor of the BMC Public Health Journal,

Thank you for considering our manuscript PUBH-D-17-02313, titled “Predicting Risk of Avian Influenza A(H5N1) in Egypt: The Creation of a Community Level Metric”, for publication in BMC Public Health as an Original Research Article. We are thankful to the Editor for pointing out some important modifications needed in the article. We have thoughtfully taken these comments into account.

To respond to the Editor’s requests, in the Methods section, we have removed the participant consent issues; all necessary information can now be found under ‘ethical approval’. We have reduced the use of and/or to one instance and added information about the duration of the interviews as well as the main purpose of the KI interview, which was indeed to inform the wealth ranking exercise. We initially approached 144 households for the household interview of which two could not participate in the study and two interviews could not be completed due to
time constraints. This left us with 140 household interviews included in the study. We have added this information in the methods section.

The 81 respondents are actually a subset of the 140 respondents, which we had selected for specific characteristics. We have added clarifications about the number of households interviewed for the study and the subsets derived from these 140 households in the methods section.

We hope that these changes fulfill the requirements to make the manuscript acceptable for peer review.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely yours,

Ellen Geerlings, on behalf of the authors*

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