Author’s response to reviews

Title: A Four-Year Trend in Pulmonary Bacteriologically Confirmed Tuberculosis Case Detection in Kampala-Uganda

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Author’s response to reviews:

April 5th 2019

To
The Editorial Office,
BMC Pulmonary Medicine

Dear Pietro,

Re: A Four-Year Trend in Pulmonary Bacteriologically Confirmed Tuberculosis Case Detection in Kampala-Uganda" (PULM-D-19-00019)

Thank you for your follow up email dated 24th March 2019. In addition, we thank you and the reviewers for the time taken to review and suggest changes to our manuscript. We are humbled that our
the manuscript has been considered as potentially acceptable for publication in BMC Pulmonary Medicine, once the final essential revisions suggested by the reviewers and yourself are sufficiently addressed.

Based on your instructions, we uploaded the file of the revised manuscript on the journal’s website. We considered and responded to all comments from the reviewers including soliciting the support of a native English speaker to copy edit the manuscript. Appended to this letter our point-by-point response. We, again, express our sincere gratitude to the reviewers who identified areas of our manuscript that needed modification.

We would also like to thank you for allowing us to resubmit a revised copy of the manuscript and have prioritized making these very necessary changes to avoid any delays.

We hope that in the revised manuscript, we have addressed all comments satisfactorily to be acceptable for publication in BMC Pulmonary Medicine.

Sincerely,

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You have addressed the major concerns I raised after the first review. I have a few additional comments:
Response: Thank you, Dr. Maxwell, for the time taken to review both our original and revised manuscripts. Your additional comments were welcome indeed.

1. Table Titles:
   a. Table titles should be self explanatory without the need to refer to the main text.
      Response: Thank you, table titles have been revised accordingly. Please see, pages 19-22.

   b. Avoid using non-standard abbreviations in the titles of the tables
      Response: Thank you for your comment. All titles except TB and HIV have been removed from the titles of the table. Please see: Table 1 page 19 line 442, Table 3 on page 19 line 453, Table 5 on page 21 line 461 and Table 7 page 22 line 469.

2. Table 4: I presume this presents results of sputum microscopy. This needs to be clearly stated
Response: The table 4 title has been edited accordingly on page 21 line 457.

Ask a native English speaking to help you copyedit the paper. If this is not possible, you may need to use a professional language editing service.
Response: We have sought support from a native English Speaker, Julie Wieland. She has reviewed and made copy edits in the manuscript. We have also acknowledged her efforts in the acknowledgment sections on page 14 line 314.