Author’s response to reviews

Title: Frequency and Patterns of Second-line Resistance Conferring Mutations among MDR-TB isolates resistant to a Second-line drug from eSwatini, Somalia and Uganda (2014-2016)

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Author’s response to reviews:

28th June, 2019

Dear Editorial Team, BMC Pulmonary Medicine,

RE: Submission of our revised manuscript titled "Frequency and patterns of second-line resistance conferring mutations among MDR-TB isolates resistant to a second-line drug from eSwatini, Somalia and Uganda (2014-2016)"
We thank you for allowing us to revise our manuscript and finding it potentially acceptable for publication in your esteemed journal. We are glad to inform you that we have dully effected all the requested revisions, and we have uploaded revised clean manuscript. We hope you will find our manuscript acceptable for publication. Kindly find below our point-by-point response to your comments.

We look forward to hearing from you soon concerning the editorial decision.

Yours sincerely,

David Patrick Kateete, for all authors

COMMENT 1.

1. While assessing your manuscript in-house, we found several instances where the text displayed similarities to text found in other previously published sources. While we understand that you may wish to express some of the same ideas contained in these publications, please be aware that we cannot condone the use of text from previously published work. We would therefore be grateful if you could reformulate the sections listed below to resolve the overlap between your manuscript and other sources. Please ensure that, where relevant, these sources are also referenced as appropriate.

The overlap primarily occurs between your submission and the following previously published sources:

Prevalence and patterns of rifampicin and isoniazid resistance conferring mutations in Mycobacterium tuberculosis isolates from Uganda

https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0198091

This overlap mainly exists in the Methods section.

RESPONSE:

As requested, we have reformulated the Methods and other sections of the manuscript and resolved overlap between our manuscript and other sources. Where relevant we have referenced the information, especially the methodology sections that are similar to our previous works (e.g. reference 14), we summarized and referenced this particular paper for details.
COMMENT 2.

2. We note that Fred Ashaba Katabazi has not been mentioned in Authors' contributions. Please ensure all authors are included in this section, along with their individual contributions.

RESPONSE:

Fred Ashaba Katabazi (FAK) is now mentioned in the author's contribution (line 403)

COMMENT 3.

3. Under your Ethics approval and consent to participate heading in the Declarations section, please clarify whether informed consent obtained from participants was written or verbal.

RESPONSE:

We have clarified that informed consent obtained from the participants was "written", see line 382

COMMENT 4.

4. Thank you for providing an Availability of data and materials statement for the Declarations section. Please note that while identifying/confidential patient data should not be published within the manuscript, a statement should be provided for where the de-identified raw patient data generated/analysed during your study can be found. If you wish to share the data through correspondence then please include the statement “The datasets used and/or analysed during the current study are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.” If you do not wish to share your data, please state this along with the reason.

RESPONSE:

As advised, we have now stated that “The datasets used and/or analysed during the current study are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.” See lines 388-389

COMMENT 5.

5. When submitting your revised manuscript please ensure you do so as a single clean copy without any tracked changes, colored or highlighted text, as these are no longer required at this stage of the editorial process.

RESPONSE:
We have submitted a single clean copy of the manuscript without any tracked changes, colored or highlighted text.

Thank you.