Author's response to reviews

Title: Risk factors for loss to follow-up prior to ART initiation among patients enrolling in HIV care with CD4+ cell count greater than or equal to less than 200 cells/uL in the multi-country MTCT-Plus Initiative: a cross-sectional study

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Version: 6
Date: 15 March 2015

Author's response to reviews: see over
March 15, 2015

To the Editors of BMC Health Services Research:

We thank you for your additional suggested revisions for the publication of our manuscript, reference number: MS 2069417019123002 (Title: Risk factors for loss to follow-up prior to ART initiation among patients enrolling in HIV care with CD4+ cell count ≥200 cells/μL in the multi-country MTCT-Plus Initiative: a cross-sectional study) in BMC Health Services Research.

Below we provided a response to the changes requested:

1. Include the names of all the ethics committees who gave approval.

The MTCT plus program was a service delivery program and IRB approval was attained as non-research determination. Local IRBs reviewed and approved as appropriate. Edits to reflect this have been made on the bottom of page 6 and top of page 7.

2. We would like to ask you to move the Author’s contributions and Competing interests to before the references

Done, see page 16

3. Include Acknowledgements and a Conclusions section

Done, see page 15 & 16

4. Remove the additional copy of the manuscript from the supplemental files

Done.

As I mentioned in my previous correspondence, my affiliation has changed - I am now at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NY DOHMH). I would like to indicate that this work was conducted while I was with Columbia University and does not reflect the views of the NYC DOHMH. Please advise how this can best be indicated in the manuscript.

Please let me know if you require any additional information.

Sincerely,
R. Charon Gwynn