

Correspondence

Authors' response

Sir,

We appreciate the authors¹ for their keen interest in our work. We used CLSI Guidelines 2007 for interpreting the results of antibacterial drug sensitivity testing².

The Table in the article² shows the results of disk diffusion test as well as estimation of MIC using E-test. The categorization of the isolates as 'Sensitive', 'Resistant' and 'Intermediate resistant' was based purely on the results of disk diffusion test. We had estimated the MICs of only the fluoroquinolones and this had been mentioned in the article. Therefore, it was obvious that the categorization of the isolates' drug sensitivity status was based on the results of disk diffusion test.

Khan and Anil Kumar¹ point out that as per CLSI 2012, strains with MIC < 0.06 µg/ml are considered susceptible to ciprofloxacin. We thank them for adding this information. This change in the cut-off, obviously, would result in all our five isolates of *S. enterica* serovar Typhi being categorized as not susceptible to

ciprofloxacin. Further, nowhere in the article did we mention that we used MICs to categorize the isolates' drug sensitivity status. However, we agree that the use of the term 'intermediate level resistance' in the statement in the article (page 100, paragraph 3, lines 9-11) '...the remaining above the level (0.125 µg/ml) that is considered to confer intermediate level resistance...' could be misleading and it should have been mentioned as 'reduced susceptibility'.

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References

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2. Tamizhmani R, Bhattacharya D, Sayi DS, Bhattacharjee H, Muruganandam N, Ghosal SR, *et al.* Emergence of fluoroquinolone resistance in *Salmonella enterica* serovar Typhi in Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India. *Indian J Med Res* 2012; 136 : 98-101.