degree of sensitivity and specificity. Previously used rapid antigen tests such as RSV and Influenza antigen testing have high specificity rate, but lower sensitivity rates [approximately 75.3% for RSV antigen test and 61.1% for the Influenza antigen tests], thereby resulting in high false negative results. Although more expensive than the conventional RSV and influenza antigen tests, RVP PCR test provides overall diagnostic, therapeutic and economic advantages. Our study clearly illustrates that a positive RVP PCR result led to beneficial outcomes such as low rates of hospitalization and the use of antibiotics. Although numbers in the study remain small and we are unable to compare with clinical outcomes in the absence of RVP PCR study; it seems obvious that with thoughtful clinical correlation, RVP PCR can be a very useful and overall cost-effective tool for clinical management. We therefore recommend use RVP PCR as a single swab test for children presenting with respiratory tract symptoms, rather than subjecting them to multiple swabs for Influenza and RSV.

Abstract 184 Figure 1

Abstract 184 Figure 2

Conclusion In a country like India, especially in rural and resource limited areas, where IgM ELISA might not be available easily at hand, it is pertinent to have a high index of suspicion for scrub typhus and more so in the endemic regions. The predominant clinical signs like hepatosplenomegaly, lymphadenopathy or the characteristic finding of eschar along with raised ALT,AST and decreased platelets can prompt the treating physicians to initiate the treatment early, thus preventing severe morbidity and mortality.