Author's response to reviews

Title: Iron deficiency anemia is not a rare problem among women of reproductive ages in Ethiopia: a community based cross sectional study.

Authors:

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Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear reviewer,

Thank you for the constructive comments. We have incorporated your comments one by one as shown below:

1. As commented, we have indicated the type of treatment given (mebendazole) for patients who had intestinal parasites.
2. We have removed the word nutritional from pages 7 and 8.
3. As suggested, we looked at the association of low ferritin with hookworm and there was no association probably because of the small number (see below the output);

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>Std. Error</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
<th>95% Confidence Interval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intercept</td>
<td>2.348</td>
<td>0.033</td>
<td>.000</td>
<td>2.284 - 2.413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hookworm</td>
<td>.190</td>
<td>0.153</td>
<td>.215</td>
<td>-.110 - .491</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. The 11% of women with anemia might have been due to other micronutrient deficiencies such as vitamin A and others. Vitamin A is a major public health problem in both preschoolers (prevalence of 1.5 Bitot’s spots) and mother (night blindness of 2-15%). Folic acid is another nutrient deficiency among women of reproductive age.
5. We have included the current WHO recommendation as suggested.

Thanks

Authors