Reviewer’s report

Title: Acute febrile illness and Brucellosis in the Western region of KSA

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Reviewer: Wael F El-Tras

Reviewer’s report:

This article describes a study on the molecular detection of Brucella spp in Western region of KSA. However, the objectives should be clarified, what do you mean by febrile illnesses all over the paper. This study and the sampling were to detect the brucella spp. The used references are old, you should use a recent references. Also, the title is not reflect your study! this study has serious flaws that should be addressed in order to gain the maximum of benefits from the collected data.

Background:
- The first sentence copied from the abstract.
- Bacterial culturing not sensitive and specific enough, How come??????
- Background should be rewritten to put more emphasis on the importance of Brucellosis and its molecular detection!

Methods:

AFI patients
- How did you select the study area? What is the base of selection?
- How did you collect the samples? Who collected the samples and Where (Name of hospitals if present)?
- What do you mean by the “healthy individuals”, How did you detect the healthy one?
- What do you mean by the “minor modifications “?

Results
- You mentioned "All samples were subjected to Brucella genus amplification using B4/B5 primers which amplify a conserved region in all Brucella species to detect the presence of Brucella DNA as the cause for the Acute Febrile Illness (AFI)" is this a result?

Discussion
The discussion should be rewritten to focus on the health risks posed by Brucellosis and its molecular detection!
**Level of interest:** An article of insufficient interest to warrant publication in a scientific/medical journal

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

No Competing Interests
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