Author's response to reviews

Title: Legionella spp. and legionellosis in Southeastern Italy: disease epidemiology and environmental surveillance in community and health care facilities

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

on behalf of the authors of the manuscript "MS: 1648270166335694", I would like to thank you for consider our manuscript for publication in *BMC Public Health* after the minor revisions suggested by Referee n.1. A cover letter giving a point-by-point response to the concerns was addressed to the Referee n.1.

We went through the manuscript formatting checklist and ensured that the revised manuscript conforms to all of the points.

Moreover, as suggested by the editorial team, we included context information within the background section of the abstract.

Please find in attachment the revised manuscript, all changes are highlighted in yellow.

We hope, once again, that all our efforts will allow you to accept the article.

Thank you for your time and best regard.

Christian Napoli
Dear Referee 1,

thank you for your re-evaluation and for your suggestions. According to your comments, the manuscript underwent to a minor revision. We are now re-submitting the correct manuscript.

A point-by-point description of the changes follows (in black small letters your comments, in red capital letters our reply):

1. Background: Authors can mention that EWGLI has moved to ECDC (it is not operating by HPA in London any more) and is now named ELDSNet. **WE THINK THAT IT COULD BE VERY IMPORTANT UNDERLINE THIS INFORMATION. THE SENTENCE WAS CHANGED AS FOLLOW: FROM 1993 TO MARCH 2010 THE EWGLI WAS COORDINATED BY THE HEALTH PROTECTION AGENCY (LONDON, ENGLAND); IN APRIL 2010, THE SCHEME WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL (ECDC). IT IS NOW NAMED EUROPEAN LEGIONNAIRES’ DISEASE SURVEILLANCE NETWORK (ELDSNET), AND IT INVOLVES ALL EU MEMBER STATES, ICELAND AND NORWAY.**

2. Conclusion: since complete eradication of Legionella from water system seems unrealistic, and Legionella are natural inhabitants of water and many studies have shown re-
colonization after disinfection application, authors could rephrase their statement. THE
AUTHORS AGREE WITH THIS COMMENT. THE CONCLUSION WAS
CHANGED AS FOLLOW: “THE DISINFECTION SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT,
EVEN IN PRESENCE OF LOW LEVELS OF CONTAMINATION”.

3 Table 1: replace totale with total. DONE! THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

4 Table 2: the total percentage of positive fountains is 28.6, but in the text it is 28.5. IT IS
28.6, THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

5 Table 5: Add "(total)" after "Positive facilities". DONE! THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

6 Abstract, line 43: replace spp with "spp." Throughout document double dots after
Legionella spp.. can be deleted and one dot can remain. DONE! THANK YOU VERY
MUCH!

Thank you very much for your time once again.

Best regards

The Authors