Reviewer’s report

Title: Male commuters in North and South England: risk factors for the presence of faecal bacteria on hands

Version: 2 Date: 30 June 2010

Reviewer: Erin Rees Clayton

Reviewer’s report:

In this revised manuscript of their study “Male commuters in North and South England: risk factors for the presence of faecal bacteria on hands,” the authors present an improved description of their study and more complete explanation of what they found. The additional details provided in the text aid the reader in understanding the study methods and analysis, and the changes to the tables clarify what data are being presented. In addition, most small typographical errors and grammatical and formatting issues have been corrected. I appreciate the authors’ thoughtful responses to the reviewers’ comments.

I recommend the following small errors be corrected prior to publication.

MINOR ISSUES NOT FOR PUBLICATION

METHODS:
1. Culture of organisms section, line 7: sterile “lop” should be sterile “loop”
2. Statistical analysis section, line 3: remove the word “backwards”

DISCUSSION:
1. Paragraph 5, line 9: “represent” should be “represents”
2. Paragraph 6, line 14: “over a a longer time scale” needs to have one of the “a”s deleted

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.