Author's response to reviews

Title: Assessment of the health care waste generation rate and its management system in Hospitals in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2011.

Authors:

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Author's response to reviews: see over
The comments given by Dear Magda M Abd El-Salam and Dear Dimitrios Komilis

- Better to use non-hazardous waste instead of general waste. This is corrected.
- Combined the objective section with the background section- this is corrected in the document.
- Shorten the background section by 30%. I do that, even more than 30%.
- The background section should end with a brief statement of what is the aim of the article. I briefly stated the aim of this article at end of the background section.
- Number of beds in Amanuel hospital stated in table 1 is not the same as mentioned in the text. This is corrected and Amanuel hospital has a total of 260 beds.
- The range of average outpatient flow (table 1 in the first submitted document) of all hospitals is not the same as mentioned in the text. I deleted the table and I put all the information’s in the form of text. The average outpatient flow is corrected in to (range 239 – 394).
- There is inconsistency and confusion in results section: land filling sites and hospitals that have incinerators. This inconsistency is corrected in to the four hospitals disposed of their waste on-site (to the incinerator) and one hospital disposed of at both off-site and on-site while the rest one hospital disposed of the waste at off-site (Kosha land fill site).
- Under discussion section, this is inconsistency table 2 with the text, the highest amount for HW was found at Zewditu hospital. This is corrected in to: the highest generation rate for total HCW was found at Amanuel hospital and the highest amount for HW was found at Hayat hospital and in contrast the lowest rate for total HCW and HW was found at Bethezata hospital (0.525 kg/p/day) and Amanuel hospital respectively. So table 1 and the text are now consistent.
- Fig. 8 should be numbered as fig. 3. This is corrected
- Delete fig. 3 and 5. Deleted
- Table 6 belongs to the introduction section. I put it in the introduction (BG) section in the form of text.
- Insert fig. 7 in the text. This is also corrected (the conceptual framework, fig 1, is inserted in the text.
- I added the articles by Komilis et al. (2012) and Sanida et al. (2010) for making compulsions.
- Operationalize patients. These are the outpatients
- I do not have the occupancy data. This is discussed in the discussion section.
- Try to reduce the discussion section. I reduced it.
- Shorten your conclusion and make them more quantitative and use bullet. I reduced the conclusion part and I make it more quantitative.
- The manuscript should be shorten by 30% - 40%: I shorten it by half (50%).