Reviewer's report

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

Version: 1 Date: 8 May 2012

Reviewer: Magda M Abd El-Salam

Reviewer's report:

The title of manuscript is interesting since it deals about "Assessment of the health care waste generation rate and its management system in Hospitals in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2011". Manuscript is good but needs moderate revise to be accepted. The most critical comments are the following:

1- Some expression was abbreviated then mentioned again without abbreviation.

2- Objective section should be combined with background section into a single section.

3- The background section should end with a brief statement of what is the aim of the article. For example, this study was conducted to assess HCW type, generation rate and its management system in selected private and government hospitals in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2011.

4- In table 1, number of beds in Amanuel hospital is not the same as mentioned in the text.

5- The range of average outpatient flow (table 1) of all hospitals is not the same as mentioned in the text.

6- Fig.1 is not correct. I suggest making numbers of hospitals (6) on horizontal line and waste handlers on vertical line.

7- There is a confusion and inconsistency in results where under results section, title "Treatment and disposal of health care waste" authors recorded that in two studied hospitals, the untreated hospital waste materials in the central storage area were finally loaded onto vehicles and transported to “Kosha” unsanitary landfill site for land filling/open dumping while in the rest four hospitals the waste were transported to the hospital’s incinerator. While in other paragraph authors reported that of the six hospitals visited, two exercised open dumping of incinerated waste (ash) inside their compound, whereas the other four transports to the municipal landfill site (open dumping site) and none had burial pits to dispose of the treated waste (ash).

8- Also, under discussion section, authors recorded that the highest amount for HW was found at Zewditu hospital (0.278 kg/patient/day or 104.9 kg/day) and in contrast the lowest rate for total HCW and HW was 0.579 kg/patient/day and 0.222 kg/p/day or 45.1 kg/day, respectively, for Saint Yared hospital which is a
private hospital. These results completely different from those recorded in table 2.

9- Fig. 8 should be numbered as fig. 3 as its order in the text. Then rearrange the next figures according to their order in the text.

10- Delete fig. 5 or comment on it in the text.

11- In figure 6, title of horizontal line is personal instead persona.

12- Insert figure 7 in the text.

I would suggest some grammatical changes may be contributed in revise of your paper. You can find it in the attachment file of your manuscript marked with red color. Finally, the paper needs to be thoroughly edited linguistically and grammatically.

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

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

**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'