Reviewer’s report

Title: Prevalence of intestinal parasitic infections and risk factors among schoolchildren in the University of Gondar community school, Northwest Ethiopia: a cross-sectional study

Version: 5 Date: 30 January 2013

Reviewer: Oystein Haarklau Johansen

Reviewer’s report:

The manuscript is much improved in terms of language, clarity and taxonomy, and I appreciate the additional work the authors have put into this. I see that some of the mistakes in data table 4 have been corrected, and that the data tables are easier to read in general. However, there are still some major problems.

Major compulsory revisions:

1. There is a numerical error in table 4 risk factor “Swimming habit”. I suspect the number 256 should be replaced with 156.

2. One of the main conclusions in the study is that lack of hand washing seems to be a risk factor for parasitic infection. By looking at the numbers the statistics don't seem right. By confidence interval analysis I cannot find a significant difference between the proportions of 33.8% and 34.4%, yet a p-value of 0.007 is listed. I am not a statistician but to me it seems either the numbers that the p-value is based on are wrong or the statistical tests are wrong.

3. I also question the stated lack of association between means of transportation and parasitic infection, the difference seems significant to me.

4. I see no other choice than to recommend a compulsory review by a statistician before this is published, as I have tried to crack the numbers to the best of my ability.

5. After the data tables and statistics have been reviewed, results sections, abstract, discussion and conclusions might need to be changed accordingly.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.