Reviewer's report

Title: Impact of duration of structured observations on measurement of handwashing behavior at critical times

Version: 3 Date: 4 June 2013

Reviewer: Eric Lau

Reviewer's report:

The author addressed most of the comments satisfactorily except the point about the choice of statistical model in modeling binary outcome.

Minor Essential Revisions

1. Methods, data analysis: in the first comparison, using linear regression to model a binary outcome variable is not satisfactory. A better choice is a logistic regression model.

In the response the authors agreed to use logistic regression for modeling a binary outcome variable and changed the values in Table 1. However, in the revised manuscript these changes were not found in the method (linear regression) and in the values (all p-values in Table 1 remains the same).

Please revise the results in Table 1.

2. Abstract, results: for mean number of after defecation events, the p-value should be 0.06 as presented in Table 2.

Discretionary Revisions

3. Abstract, results: Please clarify that the observed and expected events refer to an observation period of 90 min.

4. In the main text, please give the exact p-values unless it is smaller than 0.01 or 0.001.

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