Reviewer's report

**Title:** Exploring the gap between hand washing knowledge and practices in Bangladesh: a cross-sectional comparative study

**Version:** 5  **Date:** 19 November 2012

**Reviewer:** Patrizia Laurenti

**Reviewer's report:**

Major Compulsory Revisions
It would be interesting to a better discussion of the results shown in Figure 3: What are the causes of depletion of knowledge? Only the presence of an alternative respondent?

Fig. 4 is not clear for me: I have some difficulties to see the trend of hand-washing practice from baseline to midline and end-line

What indicate the asterisks (1 or 3) near the z value?

Minor Essential Revisions
Better explications need for sentences:

Studies further revealed that after six years of intervention in Bangladesh to improve water, sanitation and hygiene, reduction in diarrheal prevalence associated with lower number of fecal-colony forming bacteria on hands

The programme people disseminate knowledge of sanitation and hygienic practices through intensive health education

What is tubewell?

These data were entered in computer, cleaned and analyzed using the SPSS and STATA software Add the year of licence

Acronimous BRAC must be explained in the text (in the Introduction) and not in the Abstract

Legend in Fig. 1: the mark “.” goes after the “0” and not after the “<”

“Eating” in Fig. 1 and “taking Food” (in the text pag 8) is the same?

List of tables in page 9: and table 4?

**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: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

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