Reviewer’s report

**Title:** Assessment of factors influencing Hygiene Behavior among School Children in Mereb-Leke District, Northern Ethiopia: A cross-sectional study

**Version:** 1  
**Date:** 29 May 2014

**Reviewer:** Negga Mr Baraki

**Reviewer’s report:**

The work is relevant where there are scarce studies done in such areas (environmental health, hygiene behavior, and the like) in Ethiopia. This study thus may contribute in motivating others to pursue in such areas. However, the following should be properly addressed by the author (investigator).

Minor essential revisions:

1. Language (grammar edition, a major problem)
2. The size of the manuscript: Although I don't know the Journal's requirement, I feel the manuscript is too bulky and lacks focus on important areas (findings).
3. The problem statement is not well defined to show the real gap that need to be investigated.
4. The sample size determination and the sampling technique should be properly elaborated (how many 2nd cycle schools are there in the district, how many were sampled, what the number of students in each of the sampled schools is and the sample proportional allocation, what the two populations considered are in the sample size determination, citation for the proportion (p) considered, etc.
5. The source and study populations should be clearly stated.
6. The dependent and independent variables should be explicitly stated
7. It should be re-organized as abstract, introduction, methods (with brief short paragraphs for the design, source and study population, the variables as outcome/dependent and independent, sample size determination and sampling technique, data collection, the data analysis and ethical considerations).
8. There should be operational definitions for some terms and phrases used: e.g Woreda, knowledge vs awareness, graduated, ...so the reader is clear for the meanings
9. Result table for the logistic regression model should include percentages to the absolute numbers. All results indicated in percentages in the word expressions should be preceded with their absolute numbers.
10. Some statements are too long and vague; they need to be expressed in short

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field
Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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

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