Reviewer's report

Title: Community perceptions of dengue fever and Aedes aegypti in central and peripheral urban areas in Machala, Ecuador

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Reviewer: Sarah Saleem

Reviewer's report:

The paper is interesting and adds to the knowledge. I have minor comments to the authors

it will strengthen the paper further if findings from quantitative survey is supported by qualitative study quotes specially where differences are statistically significant in quantitative arm. For example, the differences in the two study groups (CA and PA) supported by quantitative findings in results section on page no 11 line numbers 21 and 22 – page 12 line no: 1-2 should be supported by quotes from the qualitative data

In tables it is suggested to mention if responses were multiple as a footnote where needed.

for Table S2 it is not clear if ‘n’ suggests number of individuals or number of focus groups. This should be made clear. I am assuming these are number of focus groups.

In discussion section- it will be good if some explanation is provided for the differences in certain characteristics of two study groups (PA V CA) related to dengue knowledge and prevention activities. Integrated vector management could be discussed with emphasis on community’s role, such as role of household women in dengue control and distribution of responsibility to other family members. It is further suggested that role of correct and adequate information about dengue and its risk factors and dengue control practices specially for marginalized communities should be discussed.

Few number of study participants can be mentioned as one of the limitations of the study

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare no competing interests.