Reviewer’s report

Title: Why do participants drop-out: findings from a prospective pediatric cohort for fever surveillance established at Vellore, Southern India

Version: 0 Date: 19 Jul 2019

Reviewer: Reviewer 2

Reviewer's report:

PEER REVIEWER ASSESSMENTS:

OBJECTIVE - Full research articles: is there a clear objective that addresses a testable research question(s) (brief or other article types: is there a clear objective)?

Yes - there is a clear objective

DESIGN - Is the current approach (including controls and analysis protocols) appropriate for the objective?

Yes - the approach is appropriate

EXECUTION - Are the experiments and analyses performed with technical rigor to allow confidence in the results?

No - there are minor issues

STATISTICS - Is the use of statistics in the manuscript appropriate?

No - there are issues with the statistics in the study

INTERPRETATION - Is the current interpretation/discussion of the results reasonable and not overstated?

Yes - the author's interpretation is reasonable
OVERALL MANUSCRIPT POTENTIAL - Is the current version of this work technically sound? If not, can revisions be made to make the work technically sound?

Probably - with minor revisions

PEER REVIEWER COMMENTS:

GENERAL COMMENTS: The study is well written, and findings may help decision makers and researchers in future planning of cohort study to minimize dropout putting in consideration results of this study.

It is worthy to be published after minor modifications.

REQUESTED REVISIONS:

In table 2 the authors used the Z test to compare between two proportions, it would be better to use the chi-square test to compare between groups putting in consideration the independent variables as Religion, socio-economic status, mother education, type of family, etc.

In the ethics consideration section; the author mentioned that ethical clearance was obtained from Institutional Review Board and Ethics Committee of Christian Medical College, but nothing was mentioned about the consent process and how privacy and confidentiality of study participants was protected specially in focus group discussion.

The authors are requested to revise the statistical analysis of table 2 to consider using the chi-square test and hence to be reflected on the result and discussion section.

the ethical consideration section to be revised to add a paragraph on consent process and protecting privacy and confidentiality of study participants.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No
**Does the work include the necessary controls?**
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

No

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?**
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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