Reviewer’s report

Title: Genetic diversity of Leishmania donovani that causes cutaneous leishmaniasis in Sri Lanka: a cross sectional study with regional comparisons

Version: 0 Date: 07 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Mohammed Abdelmahmoud

Reviewer's report:

Dear Authors,

The manuscript submitted above covers very important problem, like the etiology of leishmaniasis in tropical and sub-tropical countries like Srilanka, India as well as Nepal, which have high burden and clinically poor prognosis in such regions. Although, there were genetic variations and modification to the causative agents recently, so I recommend the suggested changes below;

1- Suggested changes of the manuscript title is needed to;
   - Genetic Diversity and Geographical Distribution of L.donovani in Srilanka, Comparing to other Strains from India and Nepal: a cross sectional study.

2- Would you kindly please, State the study design clearly in manuscript title and in material and methods section, eg; This was cross sectional study?and when the study was conducted or carried out? and how long so far?

3- How did you choose the study participants? and how did select or control them? Is there any exclusion criteria? Like Mucocutaneous Leishmaniasis? How did you justify them? would you Give eligibility criteria, to avoid selection bias.

4- Is there any variables rather than study regions? Like the study participants? Thier clinically significance? Age, Sex? Type and Genus of vectors? And were they affect the outcome of the study objective?

4- Some of figures and tables were repeated, so delete one.

5- About Statistical analysis, how did you analyze data? what was version did you choose?

6- About Ethical consideration, would you kindly please include ethical approval letter number?
Please take suggested changes on positive side,

Thank you.

**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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Acceptable

**Declaration of competing interests**
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