Reviewer’s report

Title: Characterization of Non-Tuberculous Mycobacterium from Humans and Water in an Agro pastoral area in Zambia

Version: 1 Date: 25 Oct 2017

Reviewer: Mohammed Abdelmahmoud

Reviewer’s report:

Dear Authors,

We appreciate the effort of work to the submitted manuscript above, and the wide spread of public significance of NTM, especially in one of developing countries such as Zambia, as you mentioned above that, it was the first manuscript which include molecular characterization, but to mate the wide distribution of global health problem of Mycobacterium tuberculosis, and None tuberculous mycobacteria, the manuscript needs some changes and language corrections before being published, so I recommend the suggested changes below,

-First of all, the manuscript must be revised carefully between Authors before submission.

-Abstract is not sufficient to enhance readers to be focused about your problem, you know the Abstract is the key of quality of your work, we noticed that the method was not sufficient enough, you need to inform readers that what was done? and what was found clearly in the abstract?

-About Background part, sufficient information of relevant studies but, you just need to assign the numbers of references.

-About Material and methods, you need to state what was done and what was found in one sentences, state the study participants clearly in material and methods section, eg, 153 study participants were enrolled in our study? etc, is there any exclusion criteria, how many samples were positive and negative to the LJ culture medium, is there any exclusion criteria to the study participants, what was their age and sex? What was the characteristics of the study participants? About molecular characterization methods, you need to control your work, further more details must be done.

-Discussion part is suggested and includes information and reports.

-Conclusion is adequate and supported by the data shown.

-Some of references are not in the format as per quidlines, format of the References for journal article is in some reference, Authors names followed by surname without space, Title of the manuscript, journal name, year Volume no. (issue no): page number (starting page No.-ending page no).
Please take suggested changes above 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:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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