Reviewer's report

Title: Current Status of Intestinal Parasitic Infections and Associated Factors among primary school children in Birbir Town, Southern Ethiopia. A Cross Sectional Study

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Reviewer: Sepiso Masenga

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Reviewer comments

Manuscript title: Current Status of Intestinal Parasitosis and Associated Factors among Students at Birbir Primary School, Southern Ethiopia. A Cross Sectional Study

This is a study to determine the prevalence and factors associated with intestinal parasitic infections in children between the ages 5-14 at Birbir primary school, situated in the district of Mirab Abaya, in Southern part of Ethiopia.

General comments:

The manuscript has a good Overall layout and key concepts for the scientific community/reader is clear. Their aims are clear and, in my opinion,, it is a good study. However, I had a few concerns especially on methods section, that authors may need to attend to before the manuscript is considered for publishing.

English grammar needs to be attended to throughout the manuscript
Background - Well elaborated and sufficient.

Methods - the study design is well suited for the type of study. The sample size calculation is clear and appropriate. The sampling technique too. A few concerns:

- The inclusion criteria are not clear. The authors may need to state clearly what their inclusion and exclusion criteria were.

- How did they deal with consents/assents?

- They state that they used a structured questionnaire to collect data from children on socio-demographic, environmental, and sanitary facilities. I am keen to know exactly what environmental, and sanitary data they were getting from children. How credible was the data? Did they do some QC checks to ensure that the responses were not affected or biased by the age of participants i.e age groups of 5-9 and 10-14 years

- Was the questionnaire validated? Did the authors do a pilot of this questionnaire prior to the actual study or they used an already validated tool? This is very important as it directly affects reliability and validity of data.
- On Data analysis, The authors state that they used "Multivariate regression model then followed for variables with p ≤ 0.25 in the bivariate analysis". I am not sure what they mean. In terms of the number of variables factored into the multivariate analysis, I am not sure, wasn't the model outfitted?

- What was the outcome variable used, IPI binary (yes or no)?

Results

The authors also report a p value of 0.000. To my knowledge, there is no p value of 0. I see that its the issue of decimal places, The authors can edit that p value to <0.001. See Line 55-56 under results on page 8. The same can be done for the results table

Discussion

Page 9 line 56,57. The authors say "According to the present study, age group of 10-14 year old and not having habit of hand washing after toilet were strongly associated with intestinal parasitosis" I am not sure if it is appropriate to use 'strong' as a grade for the association.

References 8-12 14, 15 seem rather redundant to the text. Are the authors able to use recent literature if available?

**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.

Yes

**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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