Reviewer's report

Title: Prevalence of intestinal helminth infections in Jiangsu Province, Eastern China; a cross-sectional survey conducted in 2015

Version: 4 Date: 24 May 2019

Reviewer: José Guillermo Esteban

Reviewer's report:

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In order to have the Ms accepted by BMC infectious Diseases, a series of questions should be addressed, many of which have already been raised in the previous revisions.

Perhaps, the most relevant question is, why only one Blastocystis case was detected in all the rural samples analyzed, which seems surprising and also strange, especially when considering that Blastocystiasis is an intestinal parasitic disease of high frequency even in developed countries. It is a matter of fact that the detection of protozoans by means of Lugol's Iodine Stain is not very sensitive, basically because it is not a concentration technique. However, it is evident that carrying out a concentration technique offers the possibility of detecting intestinal parasites without having to use molecular techniques. This situation makes me ask once again whether the title of the Ms has not been changed so that it only reflects helminth prevalences, especially Clonorchis sinensis.

Perhaps, another important consideration might be why Blackground in lines 131/132 talks about "the most common intestinal parasites are STHs,.......". Sincerely, it is obvious that the most common intestinal parasitations are those caused by protozoans, and, therefore, it should be pointed out that, at least, they are "within the group of helminths." Perhaps, the question is who carried out the analysis of the samples analyzed?
Another relevant aspect is that the Kato-Katz technique is a suitable technique to analyze human feces, keeping in mind the consistency of the feces as well as the intervals of the eggs shed in order to later establish the different modalities of intensity (measuring epg). Nevertheless, that technique is applied in the present Ms to feces of very variable consistencies with regard to human feces. It is surprising that the Kato-Katz technique is applied to fecal samples of dogs, cats and pigs.

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No

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Yes

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