Reviewer's report

Title: Protective practices against zoonotic infections among rural and slum communities from South Central Chile

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Reviewer: Lisa Conti

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The authors used a database available to them to conduct a comparison of preventive practices in three Chilean community types. The findings were not surprising given the socioeconomic description and cost associated with these practices. I would like to see a mention of the burden of zoonotic diseases in these areas, how these practices are associated with a decreased disease burden and further discussion about the limitations of the analyses (given that the analyses were simple proportions).

Minor Essential Revisions:
1. Line 30 "data was" change to "data were"
2. Line 47 change "may be" to "are"
3. Line 57 change "of animal origin" to "shared between humans and other animals"
4. Line 94 - these protective practices are difficult to evaluate as some may be used once only and others more regularly but perhaps incorrectly. Also, a review of hand washing was not included. The authors should acknowledge these limitations.
5. Line 104 - I find it hard to believe veterinarians had limited knowledge of interventions to reduce exposure to zoonoses
6. Line 131 - the authors describe three community types and base the categorization of rural villages and individual farms on spacing of houses and water accession. I wonder if these categorizations were clearly delineable?
7. Line 198 - how do you define "good household infrastructure"?

Discretionary Revisions
1. Line 69 add references after "well-documented."
2. Line 69 change "High levels of human and animal incidence of " to "High incidence of human and animal"
3. Line 96 begin line with "handling and"
4. Line 96 add "and waste" after "trash"
5. Line 162 change "sex" to "gender"
6. Line 204- here again, I found myself wondering about the "closed container." Is this a devise such as a metal box, or can it refer to a paper bag?
7. Line 252 - the quality and quantity of veterinary care is not addressed.
8. Line 281 - add references to support that boots used while gardening are protective

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests