**Reviewer's report**

**Title:** Early-life exposure to humidifier disinfectant determines the prognosis of lung function in children

**Version:** 0  **Date:** 16 Sep 2019

**Reviewer:** Cuiyun Ou

**Reviewer's report:**

**General comments**

The subject of the study titled "Early-life exposure to humidifier disinfectant determines the prognosis of lung function in children" is suitable for the journal "BMC Pulmonary Medicine". There are some grammar errors, so I recommend reviewing the text by a native speaker.

I have some specific comments and suggestions for this manuscript as follows:

**Abstract**

Line 60-62: "HDLI survivor's mean percent … were significantly lower compared with controls." Please rewrite this sentence as follows "HDLI survivor's mean percent … were significantly lower compared with the control group."

**Keywords**

Line 72: Chemical is an adjective, so I suggest you use "Chemical airborne exposure" as the first keyword.

Instead of "spirometry", I prefer "Lung function" as one of the keyword.

**Introduction**

Line 98-100: "So, it is important that which characteristics of lung function including risk factors are present after HD inhalation and whether lung function can improve in the future in HDL I children." Please revise this sentence into an appropriate way.

Line 105-108: I suggest you use persistent tense in this paragraph. Please don't use too long sentence, divide the first sentence into short sentences if possible.
Methods

Line 123-125: "Thereby, independent assessments of clinical features … for each case and final classifications … are made." Again, please revise it into shorter sentences, and correct the tense.

Line 166-167: "Analyses used SPSS version 24.0 (SPSS Inc., Chicago, IL, USA)." This sentence should be written in passive voice.

Results

All tables should be three-wire tables. Please carefully rearrange all the tables in a more scientific pattern, which you can learn from previous literatures. There is a suggestion for you, for example, that you can transpose table 3 to shorten it.

All figures are not clear. Do you mind rearranging the order of the figures (figures and additional figures)? Why do you put the additional figures in the text? It makes me refuse to read through your text.

Line 173: "Additional Figure 1 depicts the progression to participation in the Korean government survey." … the progression of participation…

Line 187-189: "Controls of both sexes over eight years showed a greater than 80% in corrected DLco and the result was more pronounced in control girls over nine years and age-related difference could be accounted for by the greater somatic size of boys than girls." I am puzzled by this sentence. Do you mean gender-related difference?

Discussion

I suggest you add more related references to support your work and findings.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

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 am able to assess the statistics

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

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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