Reviewer’s report

Title: The Unveiling of a New Risk Factor Associated with Bladder Cancer in Lebanon

Version: 1 Date: 10 Jan 2019

Reviewer: M. Ather

Reviewer's report:

Authors have assessed the impact of smoking and water disinfection by product i.e. Trihalomethanes on bladder cancer risk in Lebanese population. I have following suggestions for the authors to modify the manuscript

1. Introduction: Authors' needs to deliberate on the potential role of THM in causation of bladder cancer, as the matter is still far from settled.
2. Authors' used data from previously done work to determine the impact of these factors and this needs to reflect in the abstract.
3. At places authors' extrapolated for example RR of smoking and ex smokers from Korean data, they have not provided actual figures from either population to show the basis except for Korean study reference [14].
4. The description provided by Authors' in using various studies data to extrapolate is incomplete and either authors can provide further details and actual data from the studies used to determine the impact and risk or provide a supplementary file detailing these calculations
5. Authors need to deliberate further on the role of THMs in bladder cancer. In a recent population based work Beane Freeman et al (Environ Health Perspect. 2017 Jun 21;125(6):067010.) observed a modest association between ingestion of water with higher THMs (>95th percentile vs.<25th percentile) and bladder cancer.In addition there are score so other studies which noted a unclear role of THMs in bladder cancer.
6. Authors' need to rephrase conclusions as they don't reflect the data presented.

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As a minimum standard, please include a few sentences that outline what you think are the authors' hypothesis/objectives, their main results, and the conclusions drawn. Your report should constructively instruct authors on how they can strengthen their paper to the point where it may be acceptable for publication, or provide detailed reasons as to why the manuscript does not fulfill our criteria for consideration. Please supply appropriate evidence using examples from the
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