Reviewer's report

Title: Knowledge and care seeking practices for ear infections among parents of under five children in Kigali, Rwanda: a cross-sectional study

Version: 0 Date: 26 Aug 2017

Reviewer: Mustafa ÇELİK

Reviewer's report:

Review of "Knowledge and care seeking practices of parents of under-five children with ear infections in Kigali, Rwanda: a cross-sectional study."

Manuscript Number: ENTD-D-17-00006

Title: Knowledge and care seeking practices of parents of under-five children with ear infections in Kigali, Rwanda: a cross-sectional study

Article Type: Research article

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Similarity Check/iThenticate Results: 6 %, Acceptable.

This paper is aims to evaluate parents' and caregivers' knowledge and care seeking practices for ear infections in children under five in Gasabo district in Kigali, Rwanda. It is highly important study in terms of reflection the levels of the parents knowledge about ear infections. Otitis media is very common and serious disease in childhood and the quality of life is decreased in untreated cases. Preventions and correct treatment of ear infections provide the lower life-threatening complications such as meningitis, brain abscess, lateral sinus trombosis. There is no any consensus on the treatment of otitis media according to guideline, although a variety of treatment options have been proposed including medical and surgical treatments. Otherwise, poverty, cultural beliefs and education levels may affect the knowledge and understanding of the benefit of modern medical treatment. Clinical data and publication about this topic might give direction to us to prevent the unhealthy care seeking practices. I would like to congrulate to you for this study...

My recommendations are as follows;

1- ABSTRACT
-> The nature of the study was properly identified in the title and it includes information on the design.
** I recommended you that short title should be added the title. Short title should reflect the study in shortest way.

- The Abstract should include background (with hypothesis), methods, results, conclusions and trial registration (if necessary).
  => It is okey!

2- BACKGROUND

- The Background was brief, always it is better being more concise - it includes a scientific background and explanation of rationale, in a logic order. It is clearly stated the reason to conduct the study.
  => It is okey!

3-METHODS

- Design: A prospective and cross-sectional study.

- Setting: There is reference to the setting and locations where the data was collected.

- Period: There is reference to the period (March 2016).

- Ethical approval committee: The present study was approved by two ethical committee (the College of Medicine and Health Sciences Research Ethics Committee of the University of Rwanda (approval notice: No. 355/CMHS IRB/2015) and the Makerere University School of Public Health Higher Degree Research and Ethics Committee (approval date: 07 th December 2015).)

- Subjects: The authors stated 810 parents and their children.

** What is the inclusion and exclusion criterias for the present study?

** The inclusion and exclusion criterias are not clearly presented...Recruitment strategies should be more specified.

  => Please make a chart with the inclusion and exclusion criterias.

- Data analysis and assessments are stated and specified, including how and when they were assessed.
4-RESULTS

->Results are well presented, including figures and tables, the authors presents good tables but the tables should be improved.

**Table-1 ; males should be removed from table-1, females no is adequate. Average age should be added the table.

**Why did you create four age groups?

5-DISCUSSION

-> Discussion is well-written but needs to be improved.

** All results should be discussed..

**Add some comments about age groups...

**Limitations of study should be more specified..

**The "Methodological considerations" subheading is not necessary.. It should be removed.

** What are your suggestions for future work?

** What do you recommend the WHO to improve the knowledges of ear infections in poverty countries?

6- CONCLUSION

-> The conclusion is clear and show directly the data based on the results.

=>It is okey!

Best regards.
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.

No

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

No

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:

Acceptable

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Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

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