Reviewer’s report

Title: Urgent need to reevaluate the latest World Health Organization guidelines for toxic inorganic substances in drinking water

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Reviewer: Olga V. Savchenko

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The article is relevant because it is devoted to water quality and protects public health. The article is examining the importance of drinking-water guidelines for various aspects of life. Experts from different countries are concerned about the water quality. Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality are used as an international water quality standard.

However in the most recent edition of Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality WHO withdrew, suspend, did not establish or raised guidelines for inorganic toxic substances which discussed in the article. The authors repeatedly point out that this aspect is of great concern. For instance, the absence of standard values gives no indication about the amount of chemicals in the drinking water, which has no negative effect on health. Estimating leading role of WHO experts to amend the WHO guidelines for drinking water quality, the authors, however, correctly point out that many of the changes have limited nature and their publishing process is a long-term process. Therefore, this research, in which summarizes many of the articles, is relevant and timely.

I think that the article gives valuable information and is acceptable for publication.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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.