

Reviewer's comments

I received the revised manuscript and have gone through it. While I would have liked to recommend the publication of revised manuscript, I was really shocked to see that the number of various antibiotic resistant *Salmonella* species has changed between the two MS. It raises a doubt on the whole analysis. I would like you to see the figure 1 of the original and revised MS. In original MS 7 of 119 isolates were *S. cholerasius*, 10 *S. isangi*, 60 were reported as *S. typhi*, 30 as *S. typhimurium* and 3 were *S. spp*. Rest were other species, totaling to 118 (not 119). Surprisingly, in the revised MS the values have changed to *S. cholerasius* - missing (i.e. 0), *S. isangi* 12, *S. typhi* 69, *S. typhimurium* 28, *S. spp* 2, rest values are same, total 119. I am unable to understand this discrepancy.

Authors Feedback

Thanks for your comment. Your thorough assessment and attention to details is highly appreciated. The oversight is highly regretted. I believe reviews bring in opinions which help to have a second, better look at manuscripts and calls attention to an oversight, thus giving room to discover omissions. Also, I thought errors are better corrected at the stage of review when discovered rather than being ignored.

The reviewers' comments highlighting the necessity for having antibiotics profile led to going back to the raw data and helped to discover the discrepancies or error made while summarizing. There is no doubt that the analysis was carried out. National Institute for Communicable diseases (NICD), Johannesburg could never have been mentioned in a doubtful analysis and the contact person in terms of Dr. Karen Keddy of the Enteric Diseases and Respiratory Unit of the NICD, is a reputable researcher of note who can be contacted for further enquiries as well as Prof. K. Baba of Microbiology Division, Pathology and Clinical Laboratory Medicine

King Fahad Medical City Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on Tel. No: +966 1 288-9999 ext. 12146 / 2675/ 18195 or Tel. Mobile: +966 583701926. He was formerly in Microbiology Unit, National Health Laboratory Services, Nelson Mandela Academic Hospital Complex, Mthatha, South Africa.