



**SDI Review Form 1.6**

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| Journal Name:            | <a href="#">International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE &amp; Health</a>                                    |
| Manuscript Number:       | 2015_IJTDH_18026                                                                                          |
| Title of the Manuscript: | Intestinal parasitosis among primary school pupils in coastal areas of the Cape Coast Metropolis in Ghana |
| Type of the Article      | Original Research Article                                                                                 |

**General guideline for Peer Review process:**

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound.

To know the complete guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

(<http://www.sciencedomain.org/page.php?id=sdi-general-editorial-policy#Peer-Review-Guideline>)



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**PART 1: Review Comments**

|                                     | Reviewer's comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Compulsory</b> REVISION comments | <p>This is a very preliminary study to assess the prevalence and risk factors of intestinal parasitosis among primary school pupils in coastal communities of the Cape Coast metropolis in the Central Region of Ghana. Though the authors mentioned that duplicate samples of 230 stool specimen were examined, but it was mandatory that three stool samples taken on alternate days from each pupil should be examined since some parasites are intermittently excreted by the host e.g <i>Giardia lamblia</i>. Also, since <i>Giardia</i> was the predominate parasite detected, the authors should have performed zinc sulphate flotation technique to detect scanty infection. So, the results presented in this study may be under estimation of the actual presence of <i>Giardia lamblia</i> which is the predominant parasite detected in this study. It was really funny that the authors realized that taking single sample from each pupil is a limitation for their study as mentioned at the end of the manuscript. Actually it is a serious limitation and we have to ask since they realize that why they did not collect three samples from each pupil since the pupils gave informed consent to participate in this study?</p> <p>Under study population (line 61-63) the authors should mention the abbreviation used for the schools after first mentioning it in full.</p> <p>Table 3, line 140: the authors mention the number of cases and the % for example they mention that Male 28 (18.9) and Female 16 (19.5) !! how this % was calculated? Is it calculated from a total of positive cases (44) or from</p> | <p>Yes, we agree that the study is a preliminary one to assess intestinal parasitosis in the area.</p> <p>Samples were collected on alternate days to increase the sensitivity of the detection of the parasites.</p> <p>As in the limitation other techniques should have been used to increase the recovery rate of the parasites. However, the study was to determined intestinal parasites with the use of general techniques used in this study and not specific parasites like <i>Giardia</i> that might need specific techniques as mentioned by the reviewer.</p> <p>corrected</p> |



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|                                         | <p>the total examined samples? and how come 18.9 is a % for 28 while a lower number of females 16 has a higher % of 19.5. the same was presented for all risk factors.</p> <p>- Table 3: what the author mean by(ref) mentioned beside the risk factor?</p> <p>-line 145: the authors mentioned that they identified eight different intestinal parasites! Actually they are six not eight.</p> <p>- Line 148: please include a reference for the value reported by the Ghana Health Service.</p> <p>- Line161: the references[12,13, 14,15,16,17,8,19,20].should be written[12-20] . the same apply for references mentioned in line 164.</p> <p>-</p> <p>Ethical issues: Yes, participation of pupils</p> | <p>Corrected: % was calculated out of the total sample number</p> <p>corrected</p> <p>corrected</p> <p>corrected</p> |
| <b><u>Minor</u></b> REVISION comments   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                      |
| <b><u>Optional/General</u></b> comments |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                      |

**Reviewer Details:**

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|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Name:                            | <b>Anonymous Reviewer, Reviewer preferred to be anonymous.</b> |
| Department, University & Country |                                                                |