

Journal Name:	South Asian Journal of Parasitology
Manuscript Number:	Ms_SAJP_116404
Title of the Manuscript:	Soil-Transmitted Helminthiasis among Pupils in Semi-Urban Communities in Anambra State, Nigeria
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment ¹
<p><u>Compulsory REVISION</u> comments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the manuscript important for scientific community? (Please write few sentences on this manuscript) 2. Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title) 3. Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? 4. Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate? 5. Do you think the manuscript is scientifically correct? 6. Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestion of additional references, please mention in the review form. <p><u>(Apart from above mentioned 6 points, reviewers are free to provide additional suggestions/comments)</u></p>	<p>#1 - Yes.</p> <p>#2 – No. The authors do not describe the study site as semi-urban and in Study Area subsection</p> <p>#3 – Yes but must address comments</p> <p>#4 – Yes</p> <p>#5 – The authors need to address comments on sample size estimation.</p> <p>#6 – Yes but need to update data on the study sites.</p>	
<p><u>Minor REVISION</u> comments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is language/English quality of the article 		

suitable for scholarly communications?	Yes	
Optional/General comments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Abstract <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Aim - Please spell out LGA where it appears for the first time b. Methodology – <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. There is no need to write the value in text if it does not appear at the start of the sentence. Is the upper age limit 12 or 14 years old? ii. Please use another term for ‘sample’ when referring to the participants iii. There is no need to capitalize the first letter of hookworm. 2. Introduction - It is not clear what the authors are referring to in the phrase, “Most communities are warm and moist for most of the year, . . .” Please describe this using meteorological terms. 3. Study Area – <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Why were these communities selected over the others? What characteristics make them semi-urban? b. Please give information on MDA for STH in Aguata and the study areas. How regular is MDA implemented and what is the community participation rate in the MDA? c. What other intestinal parasites are endemic in the study areas? d. Loal is local? e. Please update the information on Aguata (e.g., total population) using the most recent 4. Figure 1 P3 – Please show the location of the of the six schools and the University. 5. Study population <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. How many primary schools are there in each community? Approximately how many students are there who are within the 	

	<p>age group of 3 to 12 years?</p> <p>b. Please give some background information of these communities. Is MDA for STH regularly conducted? What anthelmintic is administered? When was the last MDA conducted in these communities?</p> <p>6. What assumptions were used to estimate the sample size? The rationale of the survey was to assess the MDA on STH prevalence.</p> <p>7. How were the schools selected? How were the 326 children randomly selected to minimize bias in age groups and grade/level?</p> <p>8. Ethical approval - What type of consent was obtained from parents? From the children?</p> <p>9. Collection of stool samples</p> <p>a. Who collected the stool samples? How many samples were collected per child?</p> <p>b. What is the distance from the study sites to the laboratory? On the average, how long did it take from passing of stools to examination?</p> <p>10. How many slides were prepared per sample? What quality control was applied to ensure valid results of KK?</p> <p>11. Statistical analysis - Please describe the variables analysed (e.g. cumulative prevalence, prevalence by species, intensity of infection, etc.).</p> <p>12. Results –</p> <p>a. Tables are generally located immediately after the text that presents the data. They are also presented by their numerical order, e.g., Table 1 is followed by Table 2, etc.</p> <p>b. Please do not use Text boxes as Table titles unless this is the instruction of the journal. Please see Table 3</p> <p>c. Please show a Table summarizing the demographic characteristics of the students such as age group and sex per study area.</p> <p>d. The authors might want to consider combining Tables 1, 2, and 3.</p> <p>e. Were there other intestinal parasitic infections detected? What</p>	
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	<p>were they?</p> <p>f. Aside from prevalence, what other variables were analyzed?</p> <p>13. Tables -</p> <p>a. What is the prevalence of intensity of infection by parasite?</p> <p>b. Is the third column the no. positive for any parasite? This is not clear. Please make this clear in Table 2 and 3 as well.</p> <p>14. Discussion</p> <p>a. Please present the references cited in this section correctly.</p> <p>b. Review the sentence structure. Some sentences end with commas, and semi-colons are used for pauses instead of commas.</p> <p>c. The title of the paper is on semi-urban communities; however, findings are compared to rural communities.</p> <p>d. Based on the five factors (are there others, e.g., rural communities?) listed at the end, please re-write this paragraph by critically discussing why the cumulative prevalence of the three parasites is lower than those reported in five papers but greater than that reported in two.</p> <p>e. What could the reason be for the low prevalence of hookworm in these communities?</p>	
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PART 2:

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment <i>(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)</i>
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	<i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i>	

Reviewer Details:

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