



**SDI Review Form 1.6**

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| Journal Name:            | <a href="#">International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE &amp; Health</a>                                                                |
| Manuscript Number:       | <b>Ms_IJTDH_23241</b>                                                                                                                 |
| Title of the Manuscript: | <b>The impact of malaria and helminthiasis co- infection on anemia and severe malaria among children in Bugesera district, Rwanda</b> |
| Type of the Article      | <b>Original Research Articles</b>                                                                                                     |

**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><u>Compulsory</u></b> REVISION comments | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Can the authors further distinguish the malaria infection data into different plasmodium strains? Please display it in a separate table.</li> <li>2) Does the parasitic infection rate (displayed in Table 1) contain the helminth infection rate (displayed in Table 2)? The helminth infection rate was much lower than the parasitic infection rate: what are the other possible causes in this study?</li> <li>3) The authors claimed that the malaria &amp; helminthiasis co-infection was a better predictor of anemia. However, another data also shows that the prevalence of malaria and helminthiasis was higher in the age group of 6-10 years old, but the anemia prevalence was higher in the age group of 1-5 years old. Can the authors explain this discrepancy? Did the co-infection occur more often in the age group of 1-5 years old?</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We only identified <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> in all the samples by the thick and thin smear microscopy.</li> <li>2. Yes. Table 1 shows the overall prevalence of gastrointestinal helminthiasis and the prevalence in the three age groups while, table 2 shows the specific species identified across the age groups or in the study population. Please note that we have effected changes in the two tables to reflect the expected level of precision.</li> <li>3. The conclusion that malaria and helminthiasis co-infection was a better predictor of anaemia, is statistical inference after a multivariate logistic regression analysis as showed in table 4.</li> </ol> |
| <b><u>Minor</u></b> REVISION comments      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b><u>Optional/General</u></b> comments    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |