



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	International Journal of TROPICAL DISEASE & Health
Manuscript Number:	Ms_IJTDH_40750
Title of the Manuscript:	Community awareness about diphtheria prevention and control in Hodeidah, Yemen 2018
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:

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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)
Compulsory REVISION comments		
Minor REVISION comments	<p>Diphtheria was one of the leading causes of childhood death in the pre-vaccine era[1]. However, after the diphtheria toxoid vaccine was invented in 1923, and subsequently was used on a large scale in many countries, incidence quickly declined. And specifically was a continued decline after the launch of the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) in 1977[2]. As a result, physicians in many nations have never seen a case of diphtheria and may be unaware that there are approximately 5000 cases of diphtheria reported worldwide each year[3]. Unfortunately; diphtheria occurring in Yemen as a fatal epidemic since the end of 2017. WHO reported up to 26th February 2018 a total of 1193 probable cases with 72 diphtheria associated deaths that is 7 % of Case Fatality Rate (CFR). 20 governorates are affected with Diphtheria outbreak and 171 Districts are affected , most effected governorates are Ibb and Al-Hdiedah[4]. Al-Hodeida governorate (at Western Yemen) represented the second governorate in Yemen for the burden of diphtheria epidemic. A total 141 cases were reported with 12 deaths (CFR 8.5%). Al-Hali, Biat AL Faqih and Al Hawak districts are the most effected districts in Hodeidah , Yemen[4].</p> <p>The local community in Hodeidah in Yemen is not aware about diphtheria as a fatal disease. To achieve universal coverage of prevention of diphtheria outbreak by vaccination; a well-organized and effective health education activities are needed before conducting any preventive measures to raise the community awareness.</p> <p>he results obtained in the paper are publishable, subject to some necessary changes. The techniques used to solve the problem are standard with some novelty, and the results obtained are correct. However, there are some points need to be further clarified before its final acceptance for publication:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The motivation on the study should be further emphasized, particularly; the main advantages of the results in the paper comparing with others should be clearly demonstrated. 2. English should be further improved, since the paper has some spelling and grammar errors. Also the paper has some editing problems. 	<p>The following paragraph is now added at the end of introduction: Up to our knowledge; there are no studies addressed awareness of the local inhabitants about this diseases and its prevention in Yemen, so the aim of this study is to assess the community awareness toward diphtheria prevention and control in the affected three districts in Al-Hodeida governorate in Yemen.</p> <p>The following paragraph is added in discussion part: Studies about awareness of people regarding diphtheria are scarce. Only one study conducted in Russia and published in 2000 described this problem during diphtheria outbreak in 1993, this study concluded that most of adults interviewed saw diphtheria as a potentially serious disease but not as a very immediate personal threat and they felt no great urgency regarding the need to take preventive measures like vaccination [13].</p> <p>The language mistakes now are corrected</p>
Optional/General comments		