

Editor's comments and Authors' Response

Title of Manuscript: **The behavior of *Jhum* cultivators living in Chittagong Hill Tracts and its relation to malaria in Bangladesh**

Manuscript number: **Ms_IJTDH_44256**

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We would like to thank the distinguished Editor for their thoughtful and insight review of the manuscript. He raised important issues and his input is very helpful for further improving the manuscript. We agreed with all of his comments and have revised our manuscript version _2 accordingly.

We respond below in detail to each of expert comment of Editor. We hope that Editor will find our responses competent and satisfactory.

Please, find below Editor's comments and our responses in Authors' column:

**Rev_IJTDH_44257_ Leo
_v1**

SDI Final Evaluation Form 1.1

FINAL EVALUATOR'S comments on revised paper (if any)	Authors' response to final evaluator's comments
The authors considerably improved their paper. However, there are still many errors in the manuscript, including English grammar. Some of these errors are shown below. 1. Abstract, aims: "its" relation 2. Abstract, study design: Both...methodS (see also materials and methods section) 3. Introduction: An. philippinensis, An. minimums, A. vagus (species names in small letters) 4. Introduction: What does "BRAC" stand for? The authors provided their response but did not incorporate it in the revised paper . 5. Qualitative study: Around 5-7 members of a para with 50% of Jhum cultivators PARTICIPATED...	Thank you for Editor's comment. 1. Thank you and done 2. Done 3. Thank you and done 4. Yes, we have included a footnote about BRAC in page 3 in revised manuscript v_2. 5. Thank you and done 6. Thank you for Editor's comment. We rewrite the paragraph in page 8 under Result section in revised manuscript v_2 as follows:

6.Results, 1st sentence, “total 480 samples...”: It needs to be rewritten in correct English.

7.Table 1, the authors' response: “Table 1 shows whether there is association between education, ethnic and age with occupation. *Jhum* cultivation is strongly associated with adult people and most of the *Jhum* cultivators are not educated which we want to see through this association. We have discussed this association in first paragraph of discussion section.” It is still not clear for me, just looking at Table 1, what $P = 0.000$ for tribes refers to. Same with education, $P = 0.00$. The table should be understandable without reading the discussion.

8. P value = 0 (see Tables 1-2). This is confusing. Does it mean that there is no association? Is it the same as $P > 0.05$?

9.My previous remark: The percentages should be expressed up to 1 decimal place (for example, 16.9%, instead of 16.88%). The authors did not make this change throughout the text (see Discussion).

Total 480 samples were studied in 10 sub-districts where 386 (80.4%) people were *Jhum* cultivators followed by other occupations 1 57 (11.9%) and then plain cultivators² 37 (7.7%). Chakma (28.5%) were highest tribal people among the participants followed by Marma (18.4%) and then Tripura (15.7%). Half (52%) of the participants were illiterate and only (4.8%) were secondary and higher educated (P -value = 0.000) (Table 1). 70.6% participants were among 26-56 years group and 16.9% were under 26 years of age (P -value = 0.017) (Table 1).

7. Thank you for this comment. We have revised table 1 which is redesigned with education and age group. We have added few explanation on both table in above paragraph in page 8 in revised manuscript v_2 which will clarify the association between them to the reader.

8. Thank you for comment. In fact, we place the P –value as per Journal requirement. Yes we found most of P –value = 0.000 in Table 1-2 which refers P –value< 0.001. And in Table 3 we found the Odds Ratio of *Jhum* cultivator is 2.50 (P -value= 0.046, CI =1.018-6.156) with P –value< 0.05. Both indicates an association between them which is statistically significant.

9. Thank you for comment and we did it.