

Manuscript 73859

Response to Reviewers

Dear Editors-in-chief,

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to submit a revised draft of the manuscript “Prevalence of human leishmaniasis in Sudan: A systematic review and Meta-analysis” for publication in the World Journal of Methodology. We appreciate the time and effort that you and the reviewers dedicated to providing feedback on our manuscript and are grateful for the insightful comments on and valuable improvements to our paper.

We have incorporated most of the suggestions made by the reviewers. Those changes are highlighted within the manuscript. Please see below, for a point-by-point response to the reviewers’ comments and concerns. All page” **P**” and lines “**L**” numbers in read refer to the revised manuscript file with tracked changes.

Here is a point-by-point response to the reviewers’ comments and concerns.

Reviewer #1:

Comment: I would like to thank authors for conducting this study to assess pooled prevalence of human leishmaniasis in Sudan

Response: You are welcome!

Comment: Overall: However, the manuscript has minor English errors and you need to follow these comments

Response: Sure, we have checked the language part with help from a native speaker, and applied changes in the manuscript.

Comment: Abstract is written well. However. Its too lengthy. Please make abstract in less than 300 words

Response: We have tried to keep up with your comment here.

Comment: Introduction: No comments. It was written perfectly

Response: Thanks!

Comment: Methods: To what guideline do you adhere when you conduct this meta-analysis? Could you please write this sentence with reference to the guideline (example: Prisma guideline)?

Response: This statement has been stated clearly in **P4/L101-102**.

Comment: In “Information sources” subheading, you said you used “non-electronic sources” such as google scholar, universities websites...etc. Please correct me, but I think these were also electronic sources.

Response: Thank you for pointing this out, and yes you right, hence, we have made all correction in this section **P4/L102-105**.

Comment: In “data collection” subheading, please correct this word “aforementioned”; because it was written incorrectly.

Response: As suggested by the reviewer we have made the change **P5/L129**.

Comment: Write citation for Prisma guideline in “Synthesis methods” subheading.

Response: As suggested by the reviewer we have cited the Prisma guideline in all places which it was mentioned.

Comment: In figure 1, please write the number of researches you obtained from SCOPUS and web of science; because you said previously you search on them.

Response: Thank you for pointing this out, hence, we have added the proposed correction.

Comment: Results: No comments. **Discussion:** Please remove “strengths and limitations” subheading from discussion. **Conclusion:** No comments.

Response: Ok, we have deleted the subheading "strengths and limitations" and rewrite this section.

Comment: References:

Reference from 24 to 26, 29, 33, 34, 35, 40 and 43 were in-complete. Could you provide the link for these studies in the reference list? Because I don't think they were published in journals.

In reference 38, you said “accepted for publishing”. Please delete “accepted for publishing” and write

Reference 44 is incomplete, please write journal name.

Response: Thank you for pointing this out, hence, we have made all correction in this section.

Reviewer #2:

Comment: This study provided a significantly referable data about the prevalence of human leishmaniasis infection in Sudan. Despite there was an incomplete observational studies data of some regions in Sudan, this research can be helpful for policymakers and health workers to take corresponding acts. Sudan remains a developing country needing long-term construction of national health, and a clear direction towards the health issues is of vital importance. Genuinely respect to the health and medicine researchers in Sudan since your hard works are pushing the national health career to a higher level.

Response: Thank you very much for your comments, we appreciate your concern about our country, as you said Sudan need long-term construction of national health, and a clear direction towards the health issues is of vital importance, we think such work can help and push our policymakers to adopt and applied new methods to deal with the neglected tropical zoonotic diseases.

Science editor:

Comment: This is a well written meta-analysis showed that human leishmaniasis infection is still endemic in many regions in Sudan and highly prevalent in Central and Eastern Sudan, and cutaneous leishmaniasis is the most prevalent in Sudan.

Response: Thank!

Company editor-in-chief:

Comment: I have reviewed the Peer-Review Report, the full text of the manuscript, and the relevant ethics documents, all of which have met the basic publishing requirements of the World Journal of

Methodology and the manuscript is conditionally accepted. I have sent the manuscript to the author(s) for its revision according to the Peer-Review Report, Editorial Office's comments, and the Criteria for Manuscript Revision by Authors. Before final acceptance, uniform presentation should be used for figures showing the same or similar contents; for example, "Figure 1 Pathological changes of atrophic gastritis after treatment. A: ...; B: ...; C: ...; D: ...; E: ...; F: ...; G: ...". Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor.

Response: Thank you for the suggestions. We have made the proposed changes in the manuscript.

Additional clarifications

In addition to the above comments, all spelling and grammatical errors pointed out by the reviewers have been corrected. We look forward to hearing from you in due time regarding our submission and to respond to any further questions and comments you may have.

Sincerely, Correspondent author 30/01/2022

1 HOW DO AUTHORS CORRECTLY DEAL WITH THEIR PEER-REVIEW REPORT AND COMMENTS RAISED BY THE SCIENCE EDITOR? YES or NO

1.1 Authors should reconsider the strengths and weaknesses of their manuscript. [YES]

1.2 Authors should carefully read the peer-review report. [YES]

1.3 Authors should carefully answer reviewers. [YES]

1.4 Authors should carefully format their manuscript. [YES]

1.5 Authors should carefully polish the language of their manuscript. [YES]

2 FIRST SECTION OF WRITING REQUIREMENTS YES or NO

2.1 Title [Prevalence of human leishmaniasis in Sudan: A systematic review and Meta-analysis]

2.2 Running title [Prevalence of human leishmaniasis in Sudan]

2.3 Authorship [Musa Ahmed, Abdullah A. A, Idris Bello, Suad HAMAD, Aboelgassim Bashir]

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2.6 Author contributions [Musa Ahmed, Abdullah A A, Idris Bello, Suad HAMAD and Aboelgassim Bashir conceived and designed the review. Musa Ahmed, Abdullah A A, and Suad HAMAD carried out the draft of the manuscript and Abdullah AA is the guarantor of the review. Musa Ahmed, Abdullah A A, Idris Bello, Suad HAMAD and Aboelgassim Bashir developed the search strings. Musa Ahmed and Abdullah A A screened and selected studies. Musa Ahmed, Abdullah A A extracted the data. Musa Ahmed, Abdullah A A evaluated the quality of the studies. Musa Ahmed, Abdullah A A carried out analysis and interpretation. Musa Ahmed, Abdullah A A, Idris Bello, Suad HAMAD and Aboelgassim Bashir rigorously reviewed the manuscript.]

2.7 Supportive foundations [No]

2.8 Conflict-of-interest [The authors declared no potential competing of interest concerning the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article]

2.9 PRISMA 2009 Checklist [YES]

2.10 Open-Access [Yes]

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2.12 Abstract [YES]

2.13 Key words [Cutaneous leishmaniasis, Human leishmaniasis, Meta-analysis, Prevalence, Sudan, Visceral leishmaniasis]

2.14 Copyright [YES]

2.15 Core tip [YES]

2.16 Audio core tip [YES]

3 SECOND SECTION OF WRITING REQUIREMENTS YES or NO

3.1 Main text [YES]

3.2 Biostatistics [YES]

3.3 Units [YES]

3.4		Illustrations	[YES]
3.5		Tables	[YES]
3.6	Notes	in illustrations and tables	[YES]
3.7		Abbreviations	[YES]
3.8		Italics	[]
3.9 Article highlights [YES]			
3.10		Acknowledgements	[No]
3.11		References	[YES]
4 ETHICS AND RELEVANT DOCUMENT(S) REQUIRED FOR META-ANALYSIS			
NO			
5 LANGUAGE EDITING FOR MANUSCRIPTS SUBMITTED BY NON-NATIVE			
SPEAKERS OF ENGLISH YES			
6	COPYRIGHT	LICENSE	AGREEMENT YES
7 CONSEQUENCES OF MODIFICATIONS AFTER THE FORMAL ACCEPTANCE			
YES			