

# Review of: "Carriage of oropharyngeal bacteria among children in a vulnerable rural population living in a tropical region in São Paulo, Brazil"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The authors describe the carriage of *S. pneumoniae*, *H. influenzae*, and *Moraxella catarrhalis* in a vulnerable setting in São Paulo, Brazil.

The manuscript is generally well structured; however, I would suggest some aspects for improvement.

1. Revise the spelling of the bacterial species *H. influenzae*, not *H. influenza*.
2. In the abstract, the authors mentioned that the absence of *H. influenzae* supports the effectiveness of the vaccination program. The authors should include information about the vaccination status of the recruited participants or previous studies before the introduction of the vaccine. What about the *S. pneumoniae* vaccine? Is it not part of the immunization program?
3. In the results, I would suggest including a flow chart showing the total number of participants interviewed, enrolled, number of samples collected, processed, and the positivity rate for each pathogen, as well as the overall positivity, for easy interpretation.
4. DNA extraction methodology: Any limitations of the used methodology? If any, please mention them in the discussion section.
5. It would be very interesting to have data on antibiotic susceptibility for the isolated bacterial species, especially because they have been obtained from healthy individuals.
6. The authors state that ""As far as they know, this is the first study in the field in Brazil, although the number of children assessed was small." I would suggest being more specific. Which field do they refer to? Aren't there any other studies about carriage of these pathogens in the whole of Brazil or in the studied community?