

# Review of: "Assessment of Quality of drinking waterbased on the water quality index method in Hawassa Zuria Woreda, Sidama Regional State, Ethiopia"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The topic is important and the measured data are adequate. Here are some suggestions for the authors.

1. Would you like to propose a two-tiered approach in the evaluation of drinking water quality, with the first tier (general) is by using WQI, and the second tier (specific) is by using either HPI or HEI? In this case, it is better if you explain WQI first, followed by HPI/HEI later. You may provide a flow chart indicating situation when WQI is continued by HPI/HEI or not. A time frame of this chemical monitoring should also be proposed which depends on fluctuations of weather in the monitored area.
2. The authors evaluated microbiological parameters of drinking water quality, but have not provided the equation for it. By using the microbiological parameters, the authors have evaluated three drinking water indices, namely WQI, HPI/HEI, and mWQI. An evaluation method of these three criteria should be proposed to obtain the overall result.
3. To support the understanding of readers and the in-depth discussions of the results, the authors may provide a few tables and figures, and highlight which parameters are statistically different. Minimum but relevant statistical testing is considered simpler.

Thankyou.