

Review of: "Effects of sediment disturbance by the heart urchin *Echinocardium cordatum* on the sediment–seawater solute exchange: an exclusion experiment"

Asma Fatima¹

¹ University of Karachi

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The manuscript, titled "Effects of sediment disturbance by the heart urchin *Echinocardium cordatum* on the sediment–seawater solute exchange: an exclusion experiment," is well written and structured, and the findings are crucial for the marine aquatic ecosystem. I suggest publication of the MS with minor comments as follows:

1. Please mention the overall water quality of the subtidal site and the season before and after sampling.
2. Please mention how many sea urchins were carefully removed from the area. Should the quantity per area be mentioned?
3. What did you do after carefully removing urchins from the area? Did you release or store them? Please mention the strategy.
4. Please mention how many sediment samples were collected from each ring through the acrylic tube. However, what's the reason to use an acrylic tube with that measurement (height: 300 mm, internal diameter: 90 mm)?
5. What did you observe after 56 days? Were there any changes in the accumulation of sediments/biota/fauna?
6. Please provide the model number and flow rate of the wave maker.
7. What's the duration of the laboratory setup? Please include.

Best Regards