The Relationship between toilet availability and Escherichia coli presence in public-access water in the Dominican Republic

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Comments:

1. Very interesting study.
2. In the introductory portion of the article, I would like the authors of the study to connect the dots between open defecation or voiding feces in certain areas to the contamination of ground water and other water reservoirs. (See - <http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/hygiene/emergencies/envsanfactsheets/en/index2.html>).
3. Describe the importance of safe drinking water. Consult the Millennium Development Goals website for
4. In the methods section, state hypotheses and/or research questions. Also in the methods section, define variables, describe how they were operationalized and then provide a rationale for the statistical tests.
5. The authors need to report not simply the p-values, but the Fisher’s and r coefficients.
6. The manuscript is a bit light on the discussion and future recommendations. For a start, see Periago, M. Frieden, T.R., Tappero, J.W, De Cock, K, Aasen, B. & Andrus, J. (2012). Elimination of cholera transmission in Haiti and the Dominican Republic, *The Lancet, (*12)600031-2, DOI:10.1016/S014-6736 and by Tappero, J W & Tauxe, R V. (2011). Lessons learned during public health response to cholera epidemic in Haiti and the Dominican Republic, *Emerging Infectious Diseases,* 17(11). doi: 10.3201/eid1711.110827 and Stauber, C E., Ortiz, G. M., Loomis, D P; et al. (2009). A randomized controlled trial of the concrete biosand filter and its impact on diarrheal disease in Bonao, Dominican Republic. *American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*, 80 (2). PMID: 19190228
7. There were some significant syntax and grammar issues as well.