

Review Form 3

Journal Name:	Asian Journal of Food Research and Nutrition
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJFRN_128244
Title of the Manuscript:	Food Safety and Hygiene Practices of Kitchen Staff of Boarding Senior High Schools in Amenfi West Municipality, Ghana
Type of the Article	

PART 1: Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback <i>(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.		
Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)		
Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.		
Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.		
Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.		

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Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?		
<u>Optional/General</u> comments	Strengths	
	<div><div>1. Relevance: The topic of food safety and hygiene in boarding schools is significant, given its implications for public health and educational settings.</div><div>2. Methodology: The study utilizes a clear research design, sampling techniques, and statistical tools, which are appropriate for the objectives.</div><div>3. Presentation of Results: Detailed tables and figures effectively summarize the findings, allowing readers to easily grasp the data trends.</div><div>4. Comprehensive Literature Review: The manuscript references a wide range of relevant studies, providing context for the research.</div></div>	Thanks
	Areas for Improvement	
	<div><div>Abstract</div><div><div>• Clarity: While comprehensive, the abstract can be more concise. Emphasize the main findings and their implications briefly.</div><div>• Language: Phrases like "there is the need to" can be simplified for readability.</div></div><div>Suggested Revision:</div><div><div>• Replace "The study recommends that, authorities in educational institutions should continue to provide refresher courses..." with "The study recommends regular refresher courses for kitchen staff to ensure updated food safety practices."</div></div></div>	OK
	<div><div>Introduction</div><div><div>• The introduction provides a strong background but could benefit from tighter organization:<div><div>Group global and national statistics separately.</div><div>Clearly state the research gap being addressed early on.</div></div></div></div><div>Example: "Despite prior research on foodborne illness prevention in Ghanaian schools, food poisoning incidents persist, indicating gaps in practice and knowledge among kitchen staff."</div></div>	Revision made accordingly
<div><div>Methodology</div><div><div>1. Sampling:<div><div>The manuscript mentions both purposive and cluster sampling. Clarify how these were integrated. Were all 240 participants sampled purposively, or only after the cluster selection?</div></div></div><div>2. Questionnaire Design:<div><div>Expand briefly on how the Likert scale items were validated or if they were adapted from prior studies.</div></div></div></div></div>	Revised	

	<div>Results and Discussion</div> <div><div><div>1. Demographics:</div><div><div>Excellent presentation with Table 1. Highlight key demographics more explicitly in-text to draw attention to meaningful trends (e.g., the dominance of female staff).</div></div></div><div><div>2. Perception and Practice:</div><div><div>While the analysis is detailed, it could benefit from more synthesis. For example, link findings on "bad practices in chilling/cooling" to broader implications for food safety in schools.</div></div></div><div><div>3. Correlation Analysis:</div><div><div>Interpret the correlations more deeply. For instance, why might male staff demonstrate better practices than female staff? Could this be due to training opportunities or other contextual factors?</div></div></div></div> <div>Figures and Tables</div> <div><div>1. Ensure figures and tables are referenced consistently in the text (e.g., "Figure 1 shows..." instead of "described in Figure 1").</div><div>2. Add a brief note below each figure/table explaining its significance.</div></div> <div>Conclusions and Recommendations</div> <div><div>1. Conclusions:</div><div><div>Summarize findings more succinctly and tie them back to the research objectives.</div></div><div><div>2. Recommendations:</div><div><div>Suggest specific actions for policymakers (e.g., mandatory certification programs for kitchen staff).</div><div>Highlight areas for future research, such as examining student perceptions of food hygiene.</div></div></div></div> <div>Technical Improvements</div> <div><div>1. Grammar and Style:</div><div><div>Avoid repetitive phrasing (e.g., "respondents agreed" appears excessively).</div><div>Ensure consistent verb tense throughout.</div></div><div><div>2. Formatting:</div><div><div>Check for typographical consistency, particularly in citations and section headings.</div></div></div><div>Overall Assessment</div><div>The manuscript is well-researched and tackles a crucial issue. By addressing the suggested improvements, the paper can achieve greater clarity, impact, and academic rigor. Let me know if you'd like specific edits or further elaboration on any section!</div></div>	<div>Correction made</div> <div>Noted and effected</div>
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PART 2:

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	<u>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</u>	