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REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-50464

Date: 28/2/2025

Title:

CONSUMPTION OF SACHET WATER BY STUDENTS IN THE CITY OF AKANDA (GABON)

Recommendation:

- Accept as it is
- Accept after minor revision.....
- Accept after major revision√.....
- Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		√		
Techn. Quality			√	
Clarity			√	
Significance		√		

Reviewer Name: Ahmed M. Saqr

Date: 28/2/2025

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

(To be published with the manuscript in the journal)

The reviewer is requested to provide a brief comment (3-4 lines) highlighting the significance, strengths, or key insights of the manuscript. This comment will be Displayed in the journal publication alongside with the reviewers name.

The manuscript provides valuable insights into sachet water consumption among students in Akanda, Gabon, highlighting factors influencing choice, perceptions of quality, and associated health risks. The study is timely and relevant, given the increasing reliance on sachet water in urban Africa. Its strengths include first-hand survey data and environmental considerations, but methodological clarity and statistical analysis need improvement for stronger conclusions.

Detailed Reviewer's Report

Thank you for submitting your manuscript titled "Consumption of Sachet Water by Students in the City of Akanda (Gabon)" to International Journal of Advanced Research. Your study highlights a crucial public health issue, examining the factors influencing sachet water consumption among students, their perceptions of quality, and the associated health risks. Given the increasing reliance on sachet water in many urban African areas, your research is timely and relevant.

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However, the manuscript requires major revisions to enhance its methodological clarity, data presentation, and discussion depth. Below are my detailed comments and suggestions for improvement.

Comments for the Authors**1. Abstract**

- 1. The abstract lacks clear research objectives. Could you explicitly state the main aim of the study?*
- 2. The findings should include more quantitative details (e.g., the exact percentage of students associating sachet water with health risks, reporting unsanitary sales conditions).*
- 3. The conclusion should suggest practical recommendations for improving sachet water safety and hygiene practices.*

2. Introduction

- 4. The introduction provides a broad background on water access issues but does not clearly highlight the research gap. What specific aspects of sachet water consumption among students have not been studied before?*
- 5. The study's relevance should be justified with more recent references (2022–2024) on sachet water quality, urban water management, and student health risks.*

3. Methodology

- 6. The sampling method mentions quota sampling, but how was the sample size determined mathematically? Provide details on the formula used.*
- 7. Were there ethical considerations in surveying students (e.g., parental consent, approval from educational authorities)?*
- 8. The data collection process should be clarified:*
 - Were the interviews conducted face-to-face or online?*
 - Were respondents given any guidance on answering the questionnaire?*
- 9. The statistical tools used for data analysis should be explicitly mentioned (e.g., chi-square tests, correlation analysis).*

4. Results

- 10. Figures 2, 3, and 4 (student demographics and consumption patterns) lack proper labeling and should be made clearer with larger fonts and well-defined axes.*

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11. *The hygiene and environmental aspects are important findings, but they are presented only in descriptive form. Did you analyze whether hygiene behavior correlates with age, gender, or frequency of sachet water consumption?*

5. Discussion

12. *The discussion repeats the results without adequately comparing them to previous research. Could you integrate findings from similar studies in other African countries?*

13. *The perception of taste and hygiene issues is a major concern in the findings. Have you considered discussing possible contaminants in sachet water that might explain these perceptions (e.g., microbial load, chlorine levels)?*

6. References

14. *Some references are outdated. Please incorporate recent studies (2022–2024) on water quality, urban water consumption trends, and public health risks of sachet water.*

15. *Ensure all references follow the journal's citation format and provide DOI links where applicable.*

7. Figures & Tables

16. *Figure 5 (opinion on sachet water taste) should be revised to clearly differentiate categories (e.g., grouping positive and negative responses for better readability).*

17. *Table 2 (health effects of sachet water) is important but lacks statistical validation. Were any correlation tests performed between consumption frequency and reported illnesses?*

8. Conclusion

18. *The conclusion only summarizes the findings without providing actionable recommendations. Could you suggest practical steps for:*

- *Improving regulatory oversight of sachet water production?*
- *Raising awareness among students on hygiene practices?*
- *Addressing environmental concerns related to sachet disposal?*

9. Language & Formatting

19. *There are grammatical errors and awkward phrasing throughout the paper. A thorough proofreading is recommended to improve clarity.*

20. *Ensure consistent formatting of figures and tables to align with the journal's submission guidelines.*