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SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Non-typhoidal *Salmonella* prevalence and risk factors among outpatients at public health facilities in Gondar City, northwest Ethiopia

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Supplementary Table 1. Prevalence and risk factors of non-typhoid *Salmonella* in relation to food consumption, handling practices, eating locations, water, sanitation, and animal contact among 432 participants at public health facilities in Gondar City, northwest Ethiopia, 2024.

Risk factor category	Variable	Total (n)	NTS positive (n, %)	NTS negative (n)	p-value (Fisher's Exact Test)	Note
Food consumption	Raw eggs	35	1 (2.9%)	34	-	Test not performed due to low positives
	Raw meat	29	1 (3.4%)	28	-	Test not performed due to low positives
	Bean sprouts	22	1 (4.5%)	21	-	Test not performed due to low positives
	Raw fruits/vegetables	132	8 (6.1%)	124	0.01	Higher risk
	Other unspecified foods	168	3 (1.8%)	165	-	Test not performed due to low positives
Food handling practices	Washed vegetables	373	9 (2.4%)	364	-	Protective behavior, descriptive
	Thoroughly cooked food	398	10 (2.5%)	388	-	Protective behavior, descriptive
	Food left unrefrigerated >2 hrs	168	7 (4.2%)	161	0.014	Higher risk
	Consumed leftovers	121	4 (3.3%)	117	-	Risk behavior, descriptive
Eating location	At home	135	4 (3.0%)	131	-	Reference
	Social gatherings	84	3 (3.6%)	81	-	Low counts; interpret cautiously
	Restaurants	42	1 (2.4%)	41	-	Low counts; interpret cautiously
Water source	Safe piped water	365	9 (2.5%)	356	0.014	Lower risk
	Unsafe water	67	3 (4.5%)	64	0.014	Higher risk
Animal contact	No livestock contact	299	5 (1.7%)	294	Reference	-
	Contact with cows	44	3 (6.8%)	41	0.002	Higher risk
	Contact with chickens	31	2 (6.5%)	29	-	Small counts; interpret cautiously
	Contact with both cows & chickens	36	2 (5.6%)	34	-	Small counts; interpret cautiously
Hygiene practices	Wash hands before meals	413	11 (2.7%)	402	-	Protective behavior, descriptive
	Wash hands after handling raw meat	389	10 (2.6%)	379	-	Descriptive
	Wash hands after toilet use	160	4 (2.5%)	156	-	Descriptive
Toilet and sanitation	Basic toilet access	380	10 (2.6%)	370	-	Descriptive
	Hand washing station near toilet	214	6 (2.8%)	208	-	Risk when absent, descriptive
	Open defecation	52	3 (5.8%)	49	<0.001	Higher risk

Percentages are calculated as (NTS positive ÷ total) × 100. Fisher's Exact Test was used for significance where cell counts allowed; p-values are bolded for statistically significant associations. Variables with extremely low positive counts could not be tested; this is noted in the table. Protective and risk behaviors are descriptive, where statistical testing was not feasible. Low counts and limited case numbers reduce the reliability of risk estimates; associations should be interpreted cautiously.