RE: Comparison between Quantitative Buffy Coat (QBC) and Giemsa-stained Thin Film (GTF) technique for blood protozoan infections in wild rodents

GENERAL AND SPECIFIC COMMENTS (use additional pages if necessary):

Sahimin N. and team compared the test’s performance between QBC and gold standard: conventional Giemsa thin blood smear for detecting blood parasitic infection of the rodent population from 4 urban cities in Malaysia. The information is interesting. However, the paper contains some inadequate descriptions that require further explanations:

**Introduction:** No background and rational mentioned about animal (rat) choosing in this study. It would be nice to readers if authors give us a short description. Background for detection *Trypanosoma spp.* by using these methods is also weak as only one article was mentioned.

**Methods:**
1. No any information on epidemiological data of *Plasmodium spp.* and *Trypanosoma spp.*
2. This study aim to investigate the test performance, however, sample size was not mentioned for illustrating the power of the study results.
3. Research ethics involving animal subjects did not mention.
4. Although PPV, NPV and concordance were shown in the results (Table 3), no any explanations in the methods.

**Results:**
1. Chi-square is the method for testing the association of categorical data. Please reconsider for using in case of numeric data e.g., sensitivity.

**Discussion:**
1. Conflict of interest should be declared.
2. Impact of findings to be applied for clinical practice should be discussed.