Reviewer’s report

Title: Potential for airborne transmission of infection in the waiting areas of healthcare premises: stochastic analysis using a Monte Carlo model

Version: 2 Date: 11 February 2010

Reviewer: Chung-Min Liao

Reviewer’s report:

1. This manuscript is a modeling related paper; the authors should exercise more model analyses and incorporate model implications into the paper.

2. All of the figures should be revised to meet the quality of the journal. Figures 1-4 better to be combined as one figure. Please refer to Figure 1 in BMC Infect Dis 2009, 9:190. The present figures should be rearranged.

3. Figures 5-7: Are those figs derived from modeling results or sensitive analysis? Sensitive analyses are important in the mathematical modeling scheme. Therefore, to perform sensitivity analysis is recommended.

4. Why do the certain results shown in “Abstract” not appear in the “Results” section and Tables/Figures?

5. Because the manuscript is performed by using a stochastic analysis, the presented results should incorporate the uncertainties or confident intervals in the simulation results.

6. Finally, the authors might add certain applications/implications in the revision.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.