Reviewer's report

Title: Economic Evaluation of Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccination in The Gambia

Version: 2 Date: 14 July 2010

Reviewer: Mark Rozenbaum

Reviewer's report:

Dear Editor/Authors,

Overall I was satisfied with the changes made by the author although I have two points.

1. Regarding the duration of the vaccine efficacy against non invasive pneumonia. Wouldn’t it be an option to set the incidence of non-invasive pneumonia after the age of 2 at 0 so the effects on the ICER in the base-case can be shown. If it is not possible I am content with the added text in the method and result section although it would be appropriate to also add a sentence to the discussion section in which it is stated that this assumption might result in a too favorable ICER (as opposite to the four main reasons why the authors state that the analysis is conservative).

2. Page 17. The authors added a brief discussion on serotype replacement. Although the authors state that “since replacement would potentially diminish the long-term effectiveness of an immunization program. (line 502-503)” I miss the impact this serotype replacement effect might have on the ICER. We recently showed that serotype replacement has a large impact on the ICER making the current Dutch pneumococcal immunization programme even highly unfavorable from a cost-effectiveness point of view(1). The authors could refer to this paper to demonstrate the large impact of the serotype replacement on the ICER.

Reference List


Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable
**Statistical review:** No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

please see the previous Declaration of competing interests