Reviewer’s report

Title: Forecasting incidence of hemorrhagic fever with renal syndrome in China using ARIMA model

Version: 1 Date: 15 March 2011

Reviewer: Matthew Baylis

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Minor essential revisions

1. Materials: the authors must provide some assessment of the quality of their raw data. The incidence data are from 75-08 and held by CCDC. But how did CCDC get the data? What sort or surveillance was used? How thorough was the surveillance? Were there any biases? What regions of China were covered? were all covered equally well? Has the quality of the surveillance (including diagnostics) changed over the 33 years?

2. The authors should provide more background information about HFRS. How is it spread, how is it detected, how is it controlled? There is brief mention of 'complexity' in the Introduction, and I would like to see some elaboration.

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

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

Yes - I have received financial support to attend a meeting in China by CCDC.