Reviewer's report

Title: Inconvenience due to travelers' diarrhea: a prospective follow-up study

Version: 1 Date: 7 June 2011

Reviewer: Blaise Genton

Reviewer's report:

This paper addresses an important and yet fairly unexplored issue which is the degree of inconvenience of TD. This paper is original and important in terms of shaping appropriate pre-travel recommendation for prevention and treatment of TD. The methodology is appropriate, the results clearly stated and the interpretation correct. The results on incidence and risk factors concur with previous studies on the topic which confirms the generalization of the findings. It is a very interesting perspective that contrasts with usual statement form experts, mainly from the USA, that are poorly evidence-based in terms of real-life conditions.

All 9 questions asked to the reviewers by BMC when reviewing the work can be answered by Yes.

There is no major compulsory revision to perform.

There are some minor issues to tackle during revision:

Abstract:
- Add denominator ‘390/776 eligible’ travelers
- The last sentence is vague and should be more focused. The preventive measures (in terms of advice) should always be given to the travelers. The terms ‘therapeutic measures’ are too vague and should be changed for more precision such as ‘stand-by antibiotic prescription’ since this is the relevant output of this study.

Background:
- Add a sentence that most of the studies were efficacy studies made in selected populations and selected destinations.

Methodology:
- page 7 end of first paragraph: replace ‘illnesses’ with ‘health problems’ and put all of them in plurals.

Discussion:
- Before last line of page 9: Which activities have been cancelled? This is an interesting finding to report.
- There should be more emphasis on the implications of the study findings in terms of appropriateness of stand-by antibiotic prescription.
Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests