Reviewer's report

Title: Risk Factors for Serotype 19A Carriage After Introduction of 7-valent Pneumococcal Vaccination

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Reviewer: George A. Syrogiannopoulos

Reviewer's report:

This is a research type of article and is appropriate for publication at BMC Infectious Diseases.

An increase in the incidence of S. pneumoniae serotype 19A isolation has been observed in many countries, and 19A is now the serotype most frequently isolated from patients with invasive and mucosal pneumococcal diseases. Serotype 19A is also a frequent nasopharyngeal carriage serotype, and is frequently resistant to antibiotics. The investigation of the factors influencing serotype 19A carriage is important and the question posed by the authors is well defined.

The medical records of children managed by 66 French pediatricians and general practitioners distributed throughout France were examined, standard procedures of isolation and identification of S. pneumoniae were applied, antimicrobial susceptibility testing was performed using the agar-dilution method, and for the statistical analysis univariate analysis and multivariate logistic regression were applied. All methods selected by authors are appropriate and well described.

The data presented in the manuscript are sound and reveal the factors influencing serotype 19A carriage. The paper provides valuable information on the post 7-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine effects and contributes to the more effective use of the new pneumococcal conjugate vaccines.

The manuscript is prepared according to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition.

Discussion and conclusions are well balanced and adequately supported by the data. The authors do not provide any statement on the limitations of their work.

Authors' contributions and acknowledgements are clearly stated. The title and abstract accurately convey what has been found and the writing is acceptable.

After assessment of the validity of the manuscript, I would like to advise to accept this manuscript for publication without revision.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable
Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

Yes, I have received reimbursements and fees for participating in Advisory Board Meetings and serving as a speaker in symposia organized by Pfizer and GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals.