Reviewer’s report

Title: Establishment of a leptospirosis model in guinea pigs using an epicutaneous inoculations route

Version: 2 Date: 1 December 2011

Reviewer: Mathieu Picardeau

Reviewer's report:

I have read the responses of the authors and the revised manuscript with much interest and agree with most of it.

A major point remain the contact of filter discs with the skin. the authors removed the filters between 2 and 24 hours, this large window may affect the inoculum dose (at 2 h, authors still observed bacteria in the discs, while no bacteria were detected after 24 hours, suggesting that that the whole inoculum has penetrated in the animals); this point should be discussed in the text.

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