Reviewer's report

Title: Emergence of Endemic Serogroup C Meningococcal Disease Associated with a High Mortality Rate in Hefei city, China

Version: 3 Date: 16 March 2012

Reviewer: Sigrid Heuberger

Reviewer's report:

Minor essential Revisions:
1. The numbers of the tables and figures do not coincide with the referrals in the text.
   Figure 1 is not even referred to in the text.
2. In results line 141 to 149, antibiotic susceptibility data is presented. the methods and breakpoints used were not given in the microbiology laboratory procedures.
3. In th discussion from line 236 to 247 the authors speculte about capsular switching as a possibility for the emergence of serogroup C. There is no data presented from molecular tests. to capsular switching. A discussion should discuss the results presented.
4. line 275 to 284 The Glasgow scoring system is mentioned and highly praised why was it not used with the clinical data available?

Discretionary Revisions:
1. The number of deaths are presented for the whole period of study in the text. The deaths per year could be added to the results presented in Table 1

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

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

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

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.