Reviewer's report

Title: Complicated malaria and other severe febrile illness in a pediatric ward in Libreville, Gabon

Version: 2 Date: 13 April 2012

Reviewer: Richard Idro

Reviewer's report:

This is a fairly well written manuscript. In general, although the title describes complicated malaria and severe febrile illness, most of the study has little in description of severe febrile disease.

Some editing is also required.

Only minor comments/changes are required.

Abstract
1. Under results, .... and co-infections are frequent - do the authors mean co-morbidities?
2. Over treatment with anti malaria should be 43% not 46%

Background
1. It may be useful to provide a summary of the major findings of the study on the reduction in malaria in Libreville.

Methods
1. Since patients were only recruited from one ward, how comparable or different were the two wards? Would this affect the results?

Results
1. What were the criteria for admission from OPD?emergency ward to the main wards
2. What was meant by asthenia?
3. Provide the definitions of moderate or severe malnutrition
4. What was the criteria for blood transfusion
5. The first part of table 1 can be reported in words so that the table from N (%) 

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, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'