Reviewer's report

Title: Laboratory Testing for Cytomegalovirus among Pregnant Women in the United States: a Retrospective Study using Administrative Claims Data

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Reviewer: Liliane Grangeot-Keros

Reviewer's report:

The article submitted for publication explores current practices and rates of CMV testing among pregnant women in the United States by using healthcare claims data.

The data provided by this study show that the use of a medical claims database is a good way for identifying the current testing practices in the United States. The authors speculate that this type of data can be used for monitoring practices of CMV-specific testing, as recommendations regarding the management of CMV infection during pregnancy may evolve with regards to CMV prevention, diagnosis and treatment.

There are a number of limitations to this study, as well explained by the authors.

Minor comments:

Background

The authors must explain how they calculated the very low rate of fetal transmission after non-primary infection (0.2-2%), as it is almost impossible to diagnose non-primary infection.

Page 3, line 14: typing error ("demonstrating" and not "demostrating")

Discussion

Page 7: the rate of testing for CMV (16%) in patients with a diagnosis of mononucleosis is not the same as the rate given in the results (14%) on page 6.

Page 9: Regarding the prevention study conducted in France, the authors say that the French study presents limitations because it does not have a control comparison group, but the use of this kind of group would have not been ethic during pregnancy!

Conclusion

This study is worth publishing after minor changes

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a
Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.