Reviewer's report

Title: Risk factors for secondary transmission of Shigella infection within households: implications for current prevention policy

Version: 3 Date: 29 August 2012

Reviewer: Koen De Schrijver

Reviewer's report:

- Interesting, well written and clear article.
- Minor essential revisions
  1. Numbering authors 3 and 4?
  2. Background
     2.1. Use of the word developed and developing countries rather industrialised or less industrialised
     2.2 Reference and selection of guidelines as example before going in details for the Netherlands. I wonder why you have choosen these countries. It looks rational to choose examples of procedures who are quite strict (Australia) and countries who have a more liberal approach. Then you introduce the procedures from the Netherlands. It looks more logic when you do it that way.
     2.3 S. sonnei always in italics and always with minuscule also for shigellosis
     2. 4 faecal or fecal
     2. 5 IQR IRR abbreviations for?
  3 References according the guidelines of BMC , .. ,.. ect;
  4. Figure and tables: Shigella or shigella, boydii, hospitalized and hospitalised, diarrhoea,

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

declaration of interes t: none

I declare that I have no competing interests.