Reviewer's report

Title: Nosocomial outbreak of the 2009 pandemic H1N1 Influenza A in critical hematologic patients during seasonal influenza 2010-2011: relevance of oseltamivir resistant variant viruses

Version: 2 Date: 22 August 2012

Reviewer: Sallene S Wong

Reviewer's report:

It is difficult to comment on specific line because line numbers are not provided in this manuscript. There are punctuation errors in the manuscript.

Some key deficiencies and comments are listed below:

1. The sample size is too small, of the 26 patients was infected by 2009 pandemic H1N1, and only 3 patients were identified to develop the H275Y mutation and one of the three developed the mutation had mixed H275Y.

2. It requires some clarification in the manuscript; all 6 patients were listed as oseltamivir resistant in Table 1, which is different from the description in the text and Figure 1. Referring to the results in the abstract, it was written as “Three cases (patients) of oseltamivir resistance to 2009 pandemic H1N1 influenza A virus were identified.”

3. There is no mention of the resistance testing result on the second positive Flu A sample collected from deceased Patient 3.

4. It may not be appropriate to state that mortality rate is 33% (1/3) due to the H275Y mutation because the two survived patients also had the H275Y mutation.

5. In the first paragraph of discussion section, “of” is missing from this sentence: “one them died in ICU (33%)”

6. The symbol for “Death FluA pneumoniae” is different in the legend as compared to in Figure 1.

7. There should be consistence on naming of the products and supplies, for examples, are these two the same: commercial real-time rRT-PCR assay (Flu A/Flu B) and Influenza A/B Q. Alert Kit.

8. There is some redundancy of writing in the method section.

9. The sentence “confirms nosocomial transmission of oseltamivir resistant strain” in the abstract does not seem to support the finding in this study. Further characterization of the virus using whole genome sequencing is warrant to make such statement of nosocomial transmission due to the H275Y resistant virus. It appears to be the resistance mutation was due to the long term use of antiviral rather than nosocomial transmission of the resistant strain.

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, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.