Reviewer’s report

Title: Nasopharyngeal carriage, serotype distribution and antimicrobial resistance of Streptococcus pneumoniae among children from Brazil before the introduction of the 10-valent conjugate vaccine

Version: 1 Date: 7 April 2013

Reviewer: Rosa Prato

Reviewer’s report:

Major Compulsory Revisions

Abstract
The abstract lacks of the Methods section.

Introduction
Paragraph 2: this point is poor of other epidemiological data on the incidence (or an estimation of it through hospitalization) of IPD, CAP and AOM in children under 5 years.

Paragraph 4: at this point I want to read something more on how PCV10 is offered in Brazil (universal childhood free of charge vaccination? Other?). Mainly, it is necessary to state the rates of vaccination coverage reached for PCV7 and more recently for PCV10 if the authors want to assess the actual and future impact of vaccination on colonization.

Paragraph 5: can we speak of pre-vaccine era when we refer to the period before the introduction of PCV10? How many children have received PCV7 for considering that it had not any effect on NP carriage?

Results and Discussion
These two sections must be absolutely kept separate. The readability of this text is not so good and I think that this is not the best way to write a scientific article.

Paragraph 4: 88.4% is the proportion of ...

Paragraph 7: how the theoretical coverage of PCV10 and PCV13 has been estimated? Also by the two settings, it is not clear.

Paragraph 9: the findings of this study must be better discussed at the light of the availability of PCV10 and of the unavailability of PCV13 in Brazil.

Conclusions
Paragraph 1: that analyzed in the study is not a closed community but the authors must better discuss their findings (day care attendance, households contacts) at the light of the opportunities offered by vaccination.
Table 1
Is sex a risk factors for carriage? If yes, this must be discussed.

The manuscript has some good points, also considering the study setting, but it was written in a very confusing manner. I strongly recommend to the authors to rewrite in particular the results and discussion and submit a new version of the article.

**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 statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.