Reviewer’s report

Title: Detection of human leptospirosis as a cause of acute fever by capture ELISA using a Leptospira interrogans serovar Copenhageni (M20) derived antigen.

Version: 1 Date: 8 June 2013

Reviewer: Duane Hospenthal

Reviewer’s report:

The authors present their testing of a locally produced ELISA methodology to diagnose leptospirosis. This methodology was tested for usefulness in 63 patients with febrile illness in Peru.

Major Compulsory Revisions:
none

Minor Essential Revisions:
1. Materials and Methods, Sample testing by IgM MAC-ELISA -- after determining OD cut-off for your test, you then determine serum positivity based on dilution of serum testing positive. Why not use OD units as with many other ELISA tests (or simply positive versus negative)? Please provide discussion in M&M or Discussion

2. Materials and Methods, Sample testing by MAT -- "serogroups" in the pentultimate sentence should be "serovar"

3. Table 1 -- define "Location". Are these cities, provinces, states, etc.? Also, define units used for "Age" (e.g., years, months)

Discretionary Revisions:
4. Abstract, Background -- delete the last 10 words of the final sentence. You have already stated MAT is the gold standard

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:
I declare that I have no competing interests.