Reviewer's report

Title: Spontaneous gram-negative bacillary meningitis in adult patients: characteristics and outcome.

Version: 2 Date: 24 September 2013

Reviewer: Martijn Weisfelt

Reviewer's report:

This is the first prospective study on spontaneous gram-negative bacillary meningitis in adult patients to date.

The study population is derived from a relatively large amount of bacterial meningitis patients.

The questions posed by the authors are well defined and mainly are the description of patient characteristics, prognostics factors and outcome.

The methods are appropriate and well described.

The data are sound.

The manuscript adheres to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition.

The discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data.

The major limitations by the study, most important the relative small number of patients included, are clearly stated?

The authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished.

The title and abstract accurately convey what has been found.

The writing of the manuscript is certainly acceptable.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'