Reviewer’s report

Title: Extensive haemorrhagic necrosis of liver is an unpredictable fatal complication in dengue infection: a postmortem study

Version: 4 Date: 4 February 2014

Reviewer: dominicus husada

Reviewer’s report:

1. MAJOR COMPULSORY REVISIONS: None

2. MINOR ESSENTIAL REVISIONS:

2a. Results:
Clinical presentation, 2nd paragraph: the sentence “all five patients…”(5). I think the number of the reference should be (7) instead of (5).

2b. Results: Any data about other infections in the patients, especially hepatotropic viruses? What about other predisposing factors (beside DM and hypertension)? This is a crucial issue considering that most patients died on day 4 to 6 with extensive necrosis of the liver.

2c. Results: Was diabetes of the patients under control or well managed?

2d. Results: Was the patient referred from another hospital or health center? What treatment given before arrived at THP? The author need to explain more about this treatment issue since many problems raised from improper fluid management.

2e. Table I: Any data of BMI of the patients? I consider this is better than “appearance”

2f. Discussion: What is the distribution of dengue virus serotypes in Srilanka? Is Den-1 the most encountered serotype? Or is it only found on the deceased patients?

2g. Discussion: Any known data on liver histopathology of the survivors? Maybe the necrosis process also found in various stages of the disease.

2h. Discussion: The author mentioned little information about treatment. It is stated that they followed the Srilanka guidelines. I guess Srilanka guidelines follow the WHO guidelines. Am I right?

2i. Discussion: I suggest the author to mention several other limitations of the study. For example: some missing data of the patients.

2j. References: Is the data about the reference number 30 complete?

3. DISCRETIONARY REVISIONS:

3a. Reference number 1 is 1997 WHO Guidelines. There are 2 more recent
guidelines at this moment (2009 and 2011). I believe the authors know about it.
3b. Table I: I also suggest the IgM and NS1 data mentioned in the table

**Level of interest:** An article of importance 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 below