Reviewer's report

Title: Incidence and etiology of hemolytic-uremic syndrome in children in Norway, 1999-2008 - a retrospective study of hospital records to assess the sensitivity of surveillance

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Reviewer: Lawrence Copelovitch

Reviewer's report:

An well written descriptive study of HUS over a 10 year period in Norway.

The article has two main noteworthy findings:

1. The first description a systematic epidemiologic survey of HUS in Norway.
2. Approximately 40% of cases will be not reported when relying on microbiologic confirmation for mandated reporting.

Although there are some potential subtle differences between the patients with HUS in Norway and those in other countries (20% vs 10% exposed to EHEC develop HUS, 20% vs 40% of atypical HUS is pneumococcal) most of the numbers are fairly small and fairly comparable.

I have no specific criticism other than the lack of potential wide-spread interest of this manuscript outside of Norway.

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'