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

Version: 1
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Reviewer: Howard Trachtman

Reviewer's report:

This is a well conceived and clearly written paper

The following are a few suggestions that might improve the manuscript

1. The authors might want to discuss the literature dealing with "incomplete " cases of HUS that are somewhat analogous to their cases without laboratory confirmation

2. The authors might want to comment on the lower incidence of STEC HUS in Norway

3. It might be worth discussing the role of routine microbiological surveillance for STEC

4. For clarity, it may be advisable to remove the material about atypical HUS which is generally not related to STEC but rather to abnormalities in the alternative pathway of complement

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.