Reviewer’s report

Title: Cholera outbreaks (2012) in three districts of Nepal reveal clonal transmission of multi-drug resistant Vibrio cholerae O1

Version: 2 Date: 24 October 2013

Reviewer: Nur Hasan

Reviewer’s report:

In this manuscript presented by Dixit et al., phenotypic and genotypic analysis of diverse set of environmental and clinical V. cholerae isolates were carried out, and provided evidence of clonal transmission of multidrug resistance V. cholerae in 2012 cholera outbreak in Nepal. The study also identified mutational events in tcpA, gyrA and parC genes and reported the genotype distribution of major virulence associate genes or islands. This study as a whole offers valuable information to the filed particularly on cholera outbreak in Nepal and carries importance for future epidemiological, outbreak, and trace back study. I have few comments:

1. The overall presentation needs to be little more cohesive. There are too many paragraphs at methods and results sections, many of them could be condensed together under major categories like phenotypic, genotypic characteristics, virulence etc.
2. Abstract needs to be condensed for better clarity of major findings author wants to highlight

Other minor comments:

P3. L70, “Vibrio” should italicized
P13, L344: distinct? ; Needs revision
P14, L367: parenthesis needs to be corrected.
P16, L411-413: the whole sentence needs revision for proper meaning
P17, L414: what other supporting data has been referred here? Once PCR provided amplification of wbe it should be O1? Too much redundancy all throughout the manuscript.
P16, L434-437: this sentence needs revision for its actual meaning.

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; However, I have collaboration and publication with some of the authors in this manuscript, and icddr,b.