Reviewer's report

Title: Screening of post-mortem tissue donors for Coxiella burnetii infection after large outbreaks of Q fever in The Netherlands.

Version: 2 Date: 4 September 2013

Reviewer: D TED EASTLUND

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions...... NONE

Minor Essential Revisions... (ONE)

Specific comment

The first sentence on the CONCLUSION needs change.
It states:
This study provides the first estimate of the general seroprevalence of antibodies against Coxiella of 3.0% after the recent outbreaks of Q fever in The Netherlands.

They should add that it is a seroprevalence of the deceased tissue donor population.
Otherwise the reader may conclude it is a seroprevalence of the general population, including the healthy public.

General comments to the editor

The MS is very well written, scientifically sound and well discussed.
Publication is important to the transplantation community.
Publication of this MS is certainly relevant to your journal BMC Infectious Disease.

It is also important to more than the tissue transplantation and tissue bank community. It has relevance to infectious disease epidemiology, infectious disease testing and the natural history of Q fever.

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 have no competing interests.