Reviewer's report

Title: Hepatitis B and C: Prevalence and risk factors associated with seropositivity among children in Karachi, Pakistan

Version: 3 Date: 12 June 2006

Reviewer: Maria Chironna

Reviewer's report:

General

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Some language mistakes still persist. It should be useful the paper to be revised by the Editor.

Abstract

Line 11: 1.8 rather than I.8
Line 15: 45? What is? The no. of positives? Write the result more clearly.
From line 14 to line 17: OR and CI are not clearly expressed in the context of the sentences. For example [OR= 2.2; CI: 1.3-3.6].
Line 20: Hepatitis B vaccine should be administered to all newborns regardless of maternal HBs Ag status.

Background

Check the spaces in lines 3, 4.
Line 9, after Zuberi et al a full stop is required.
Line 11, a full stop after reference 7 is required.
Page 4, line 3: delete â€œareâ€.
Page 5, HBsAg and not HBsAG

Results

Line 3, 1.8% rather than I.8%
OR and CI should be written more clearly.

Discussion

Repeating results should be avoided in this section. Therefore, all references to tables in the brackets should be deleted. Some concepts seem repeated, for example those before reference 23 (two times) (pages 12 and 13).
Page 14, line 5: the sentences referring to the limitations of the study should be inserted at the beginning or after the first paragraph of the discussion section rather than at the end.

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests