Reviewer's report

Title: Influenza pandemic intervention planning using InfluSim: Pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceutical interventions

Version: 1 Date: 2 January 2007

Reviewer: Bram M Palache

Reviewer's report:

General

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

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

In light of pre-and clinical research findings on cross reactivity between various H5N1 avian influenza strains on candidate pandemic vaccines, the article should discuss these findings in light of their findings for the need of early intervention if a pandemic would emerge to have the greatest impact. The authors only discuss pandemic vaccines, which will not be available within months after the onset of the pandemic. The possible role for prepandemic vaccines and its potential impact on the pandemic should at least be discussed in light of the latest information on H5N1 prototype vaccines.

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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: 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