Reviewer's report

Title: Aetiology of community-acquired, acute gastroenteritis in hospitalised adults: a prospective cohort study

Version: 1 Date: 2 August 2008

Reviewer: Jacob Yahav

Reviewer's report:

This paper is a very important and a good article regarding the topics of community acquired adult gastroenteritis in industrialized country. I miss information regarding the place of stay of the patients prior to hospitalization. If all of them came from their own apartments or part of them from community houses like elderly places is not mentioned and it is important to know.

I miss information about the cost effectiveness of the culture and tests done in those patients. As it is an informative paper i feel it’s important to express the cost of the test's performed. I don't think in the future every patient should go such an investigation but knowing the price of each test we can deside what test is the most beneficial in terms of money and effectivity.

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