Reviewer's report

Title: Chlamydia trachomatis Incidence and Prevalence Trends in Finland 1983-2003

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Reviewer: Birgit Henrich

Reviewer's report:

In the present work Lyytikäinen and coworker reported on trends in incidence and seroprevalence of Chlamydia trachomatis in Finland from 1983 to 2003. They analysed the sera of nearly 8000 women under 29 years who had at least two consecutive pregnancies. In comparing the incidence rates of C. trachomatis infections obtained from the National Registry of Infectious Diseases and the prevalence data based on serology they found a discrepancy in this population: while the seroprevalence decreased during 1983-2003 the incidence rates increased.

The paper is well written and interesting, especially for epidemiologists. The scientific benefit is somewhat limited as the seroprevalence data were already published this year in Sex. Transm. Infect. with nearly the same patients collective and the discussion already dealt with the major finding, the discrepancy between incidence and prevalence.

Discretionary Revisions
The authors could emphasise to the discrepancy of incidence and prevalence and change the title accordingly.

Minor Essential Revisions
The authors should correct the inconsistence of figures' labelling: three figures are depicted but only two figures (with subdivisions) are described in the text. The English should be carefully reviewed and the frequent errors corrected.

Major Compulsory Revisions
None

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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

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.