Reviewer’s report

Title: Risk factors for nasopharyngeal carriage of drug-resistant Streptococcus pneumoniae: data from a nation-wide surveillance study in Greece.

Version: 1 Date: 11 September 2008

Reviewer: Raquel Sa-Leao

Reviewer’s report:

- No major compulsory revisions
- Minor Essential Revisions
  1. Line 158. Delete “in total”
  2. Lines 278-280 In the quotation of the Cohen’s et al study it is important to mention that all children had a diagnosis of acute otitis media at the time of sampling. In fact, enrollement criteria were defined in order to maximize the likelihood of not only AOM but specifically pneumococcal AOM.
  3. Table 3. Nafplio-Tripoli-Sparti row: decimal figures missing for %NS-%R.
- Discretionary Revisions
  4. Lines 64-65: Add “mostly only a few”: Antibiotic resistant pneumococci involve mostly only a few serogroups…
  6. Two final paragraphs of discussion/conclusion. Suggestion: Recent papers have shown that an increase of antimicrobial resistance among non-vaccine type pneumococci follows introduction of PCV7 in places where antimicrobial pressure is high. I suggest mentioning a couple of those studies. I believe it is important to clearly emphasize that PCV7 introduction will not be enough to contain antimicrobial resistance if not coupled with rigorous interventions that decrease antimicrobial use particularly in places where antimicrobial use is very high such as in Greece.
  7. Suggestion: A map supporting Table 1 indicating the geographical location of the cities from where samples were collected could be interesting for a foreign reader not familiar with the geography of Greece.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable
**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.