Reviewer’s report

Title: Leptospirosis in the Asia Pacific Region

Version: 1 Date: 1 June 2009

Reviewer: Kalimuthusamy Natarajaseenivasan

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have addressed to review the epidemiology of the leptospirosis in the Asia Pacific countries. In these regions the disease is very much prevalent with higher incidence, which needs to be emphasized. They have done a compilation of the data from various publications and from their own research expertise and brought to a format addressing the leptospirosis surveillance, epidemiology and control measures. Leptospirosis is being a major disease of these countries with a wide variety of epidemiological niche and transmission dynamics, this review will be informative to researchers of other parts of the world. So this article may be accepted for publication with the following major compulsory revisions.

This article may be substantially improved with the following additions, because the title is specifying “Leptospirosis in the Asia Pacific Region”, but the review is only describing about surveillance, epidemiology and control. So the review may be directed in the following aspects i) epidemiological niches, ii) transmission prototype, iii) outbreak situations iv) clinical signs and symptoms v) patho-physiological changes vi) incidence and prevalence vii) treatment protocols, viii) diagnostic events ix) control measures etc. of various geographical regions of Asia Pacific countries. This will strengthen the review and new informative for the researchers. Otherwise the title should be changed as per the content of the manuscript.

Some of relevant photographic data may be supplemented for epidemiological situations, which makes the article more interesting for reading.

Data may be tabulated in a comparative format and may be discussed.

It is obvious that the data were pooled from various publications and sources, so the method part may be modified by the way the compilation has been carried out rather indicating the source.

In the prevention and control, the prophylaxis for leptospirosis is to be highlighted much, because that is the only possible mode of prevention in countries like India during the outbreak situations.

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.