Reviewer's report

Title: Clinical Characteristics of the Autumn-Winter Type Scrub Typhus Cases in South of Shandong Province, Northern China

Version: 2 Date: 28 January 2009

Reviewer: Hwa-Jen Teng

Reviewer's report:

29. The distribution map of the cases in the study areas will be highly attracted the readers of the journal. Please add the information.
R: Done as suggested.
RR: I meant the distribution map of the cases in the study areas, not the study areas.

34. (Page 8 line 16) In "data collection", it stated activities as the time of infection. Please define the time of infection. for example. ? time before the day of onset.
R: We agreed............1-3 weeks prior to onset of symptoms.
RR: please explain that 1-3 weeks is the incubation period of this autumn-winter type scrub typhus.

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

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' below.