Reviewer's report

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

Version: 3 Date: 8 April 2009

Reviewer: Motohiko Ogawa

Reviewer's report:

The revised manuscript well describe The Autumn-Winter Type of Scrub typhus in China and highlight its specific features.

I understand Kawasaki type is very similar to the detected strains (but not same) and major in Shandong province. I recommend that you should establish Chinese isolates of O.tsutsugamushi and used them for serological diagnosis in near future. So I wondered why you did not use the original isoltaes for the serological diagnosis.

About CRP and others. I understand the situation. I hope that more medical investigation would be done to understand specific clinical features of the Autumn-Winter Type Scrub typhus.

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.