Reviewer's report

Title: Characteristics of progressive multifocal leukoencephalopathy clarified through internet-assisted laboratory surveillance in Japan

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Reviewer: Pasquale Ferrante

Reviewer's report:

The authors built an internet-assisted laboratory surveillance program in order to define a nationwide survey of PML, improving the knowledge about the epidemiology and the clinical features of the pathology.

The conclusions of the paper are very interesting and up-to-date, the design of the database is well done and the program seems useful for the national clinicians, patients and scientists.

The article can be accepted after some minor revisions:

1- Methods: The labeling molecules of the three probes used for the real time assays should be reported

2- Lines 190, 197, 205, 237, 241: please avoid “ca” and report the exact percentage

3- Results: since the authors summarize the results in 4 tables, the Results section can be shortened

Discussion: please shorten the section

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'