Reviewer's report


Version: 2 Date: 1 March 2005

Reviewer: Charles A Stiller

Reviewer's report:

General

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)
Some corrections to English are necessary, including the following:
page 5, line 6, change 'a subestimation' to 'underestimation';
page 6, line 7 from end, change 'another' to 'other'.
Other corrections:
page 5, line 7, should 'cities' be 'states'?
page 13, line 8, please check - I thought B-precursor ALL was less frequent in some developing countries
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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
The authors have now made clear that the Mexico City denominators are children in families entitled to care provided by IMSS. As IMSS only provides care for workers under contract to a company and their families, the study population seems likely to be of a higher socio-economic level than the total population of Mexico City. It could be of interest to discuss briefly the possibility that the incidence rates in the study population are an over-estimate of those in the total population because of the frequently observed higher incidence of ALL (especially) in populations of higher socio-economic status.

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

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

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.