Reviewer's report

Title: Molecular Identification of Adenovirus Causing Respiratory Tract Infection in Pediatric Patients at the University of Malaya Medical Centre

Version: 1 Date: 13 January 2010

Reviewer: David Schnurr

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The manuscript describes the first study of the types of adenoviruses circulating in Malaysia. The number of isolates obtained and characterized are too few to base many conclusions on, other than that Ads were rare in this population or the culture method was not optimal. The observation of subclusters of ad 5, 2 and 7 deserves to be followed up.

Comments

Major Compulsory Revisions
none

Minor Essential Revisions
none

Discretionary Revisions
Pg 2 methods, not clear. Samples of what, cultured material

Page 4 Results:
lines 3-5, describing results as percentage rather than as the numbers is not clear. With such a small number of isolates the absolute numbers would be sufficient.

Page 3. Is HFM disease associated with Ad virus?

Page 4

Background: lines 8-11. Acute childhood mortality ranges .. what is the significance of these statistics? The number of children dying in 2000 does seem significant.

line 8: that the virus imposes on (not to)

line 10: I woould hesitate to mention future vaccination programs based on this data.

page 5 Methods: viral Isolation

line 8: what volume was inoculated into cell culture?
Page 8 line 14-15 the specimen that yielded ad 41 came from a rectal swab, while Table 1 Sample AD07MY01, an AD 41 came from a NPS? It seems unlikely that Ad 41 came from an NPS.

**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, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests