Reviewer's report

Title: Hospitalisation for rotavirus gastroenteritis in the paediatric population in the Veneto Region, Italy.

Version: 1 Date: 4 May 2010

Reviewer: Ana Lopez-de-Andres

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions.

This manuscript examines rotavirus gastroenteritis hospital admissions and costs in one hospital in a region of Italy in paediatric population. The objective of the manuscript has been widely studied in studies with greater statistical power and larger sample size than that presented by the authors. Frankly, I was sufficiently confused by the presentation to be unsure of the value of the manuscript.

A new rotavirus vaccine (Rotateq) was available; the authors should add any information related to rotavirus vaccination program in Italy and the influence of this vaccination on the incidence of their data.

The authors should separate the results of the discussion into its own section.

The authors should clearly specify the source of patient data.

Authors should specify the reason for the temperature used to compare incidence.

The authors discuss the hospitalization-related costs, but costs associated with hospitalization in the manuscript are analyzed? Please clarify this point.

In discussion, some more discussion is necessary including more strengths and limitations of the study.

The conclusions seem a little; I suggest include and describe potential strategies to provide vaccination rotavirus for children in Italy.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests