Reviewer's report

Title: Spatial distribution of the risk of dengue fever in southeast Brazil, 2006-2007.

Version: 1 Date: 6 January 2011

Reviewer: Reinaldo Souza-Santos

Reviewer's report:

The paper "Spatial distribution of the risk of dengue fever in southeast Brazil, 2006-2007" makes an important contribution to studies about the risk of dengue, including the use of geospatial technology.

The text is well structured, the methodology is clear and the results have been properly discussed. There are few aspects that may need to be reviewed.

It was not clear to me who did the laboratory diagnosis of cases. This step was made by the service routine or during development of the study? The cases were selected based on service records? The controls were examined (laboratory) to know whether they were exposed to the virus? Depending on the answers, this issue could be explored in the discussion, even if it is a limitation to the study. According to a table 1 less than 3% of cases and controls reported having had dengue.

Table 1 was not cited and explored in the results.

References 2 and 11 are the same.

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.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests