Reviewer's report

Title: Second hand smoke exposure and the risk of invasive meningococcal disease in children: systematic review and meta-analysis

Version: 2 Date: 10 August 2012

Reviewer: Robert Booy

Reviewer's report:

Dear editor,

The authors have substantially modified the paper, most of our suggestions have been incorporated, but two points still need attention. Those are:

1. The last sentence of the abstract/SUMMARY “It is likely that an extra 630 cases of invasive meningococcal disease annually in children under 16 are directly attributable to SHS exposure in the home”-it should be specified which homes (eg in this context ‘UK’ homes should be specified, otherwise the sentence remains unclear).

2. In Table 1, the Pereiro paper is still shown to be published in 2000, but it was published in 2004.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest 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 have received financial support from pharmaceutical companies CSL, Sanofi, GSK, Novartis, Roche, and Wyeth to conduct research and attend and present at scientific meetings. Any funding received is directed to an NCIRS research account at The Children’s Hospital at Westmead and is not personally accepted by me.