Reviewer's report

Title: Elevation and Cholera: An Epidemiological Spatial Analysis of the Cholera Epidemic in Harare, Zimbabwe, 2008-2009

Version: 1 Date: 18 January 2012

Reviewer: Emmanuelle Chevallier-Portalez

Reviewer's report:

Major compulsory revisions

1. You should introduce the indirect effect of elevation at the beginning of the paper, in the Introduction. Otherwise the paper seems to misunderstand the number 16 reference (Bingham P.) which you should report the conclusions: the reworking of Snow and Farr data highlights the importance of the water supply, beside elevation and poor rate effects on cholera mortality rate.

2. Well known cholera risk factors such as density residential housing, transportations, water supplies and sewage system should be clearly mentionned at the beginning of your work. Despite the fact we understand that the elevation shoud be known as a risk factor of cholera at Harare, your conclusions would be strongest and more easily exported to other geographical environnement if you would develop a bit more the local differences on these other risks factors in the districts of high or low elevation.

Discretionary Revision

1. To suggest further studies to explore the link beteween elevation and water supplies or sewage systems in your Conclusion

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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