Reviewer's report

Title: Cost-effectiveness and cost utility analysis of three pneumococcal conjugate vaccines in children of Peru

Version: 2 Date: 31 July 2013

Reviewer: Lesley Tilson

Reviewer's report:

The initial comments have been appropriately addressed and the manuscript amended. However, a major limitation of this study is the uncertainty associated with some of the data inputs included in the model. Although, the authors have changed the conclusion to state that this is a modelling exercise and that PVCs are likely to be cost-effective, I consider there should be a greater emphasis on the fact that the findings of this cost-effectiveness analysis are subject to great uncertainty. Many parameters are based on expert opinion or assumption. The conclusion in the abstract should be changed to reflect the conclusion in the main text.

The authors outline the rationale for including vaccine efficacy against NTHi disease and the uncertainty associated with this is addressed in a scenario analysis of VE against NTHi in ID. In order to more thoroughly address the uncertainty an additional scenario analysis of no vaccine efficacy against all NHTi disease should be included to illustrate the impact of this parameter on the comparison of PHID-CV and PCV13.

I recommend the following three major compulsory revisions:

1. Change the abstract conclusion to reflect the conclusion in the main text.
2. Place a greater emphasis in the discussion that many parameters are based on expert opinion or assumption and there is great uncertainty with the results of this evaluation.
3. Include a scenario analysis of no vaccine efficacy against ALL NTHi disease.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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