Reviewer's report

Title: Air Pollution and the Hemorrhagic Fever with Renal Syndrome

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Reviewer: Abdulbari Bener

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Manuscript ID:
Title: Air pollution and the hemorrhagic fever with renal syndrome
Journal: BMC Public health
Subject: Review

Overall comments: The paper addresses an interesting and important public health issue by assessing the association between environmental pollution and incidence of hemorrhagic fever with renal syndrome during 2001-2010 in Korea. The research question is novel and provides substantial evidence for future researches and hypothesis generation. The paper is succinct with sound methodology, appropriate statistical analysis and literature review however there are few minor revisions which need to be addressed before acceptance of this manuscript:

1. Title: The title of the manuscript needs to be rephrased. The title should include name of the country or city etc.

2. Methods:
   a. Study design: The authors have not explicitly reported the design of the study. While it seems to be an ecological/correlation study, the authors are advised to report it appropriately in the methods section.
   b. Study duration: The authors should report the exact date/duration when the study was being carried out.
   c. Study setting: Where was the study carried out? place/city/country etc..
   d. Data collection tools and methods: although the authors have clearly reported the sources of data however they fail to provide any details regarding the tools or specific methods through which the data was being retrieved and recorded. Therefore, it is advised to adequately describe data collection methods and tools. Any questionnaires or tools which were developed and used for data recording/retrieval etc should be reported.

3. Conclusion: The given conclusion is very vague. Authors are advised to provide concise and succinct conclusion in line with the objective and findings of this study. New ideas or information should be avoided and no citations should be provided in the conclusion.

4. Tables: Please report the dependent variable and all other variables for which the multivariable models were adjusted for, as foot note in table 1 and 2.
5. Figures: Figure 3 is not clear. Where is the line for climate and air pollutant model?

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

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

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

'I declare that I have no competing interests'