Reviewer's report

Title: Air pollution and hemorrhagic fever with renal syndrome in South Korea: an ecological correlation study

Version: 2 Date: 23 February 2013

Reviewer: Abdulbari Bener

Reviewer's report:

Mr Victorino Silvestre
on behalf of Dr Veronica Vieira
Tel: +44 (0) 20 3192 2013
e-mail: editorial@biomedcentral.com
Web: http://www.biomedcentral.com/

MS: 1183944195841361

Research article

Air pollution and hemorrhagic fever with renal syndrome in South Korea: an ecological correlation study Seung Seok Han, Sunhee Kim, Yunhee Choi, Suhnggwon Kim and Yon Su KimBMC Public Health

Dear Mr. Silvestre

Overall, the paper is much easier to follow and read. There is improved clarity about the initial hypothesis and the results found. I am very glad with authors responded. Meanwhile, I would like to reply the following points to help you in your decision.

1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined? YES
2. Are the methods appropriate and well described? YES
3. Are the data sound? YES
4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition? YES
5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data? YES
6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated? YES
7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished? YES
8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found? YES
9. Is the writing acceptable? YES
In conclusion, this study is well written and is well designed. It addresses an important issues concerning public health topic in a very thorough and yet concise manner. Finally, it can be accepted for publication in the BMC Public Health.

Should you have any further comments and queries about my review and paper, please do not hesitate to contact me any time. Looking forward to hearing from you. Kindest regards.

Very truly yours,

Bari

Prof. Abdulbari Bener
Advisor to WHO
Consultant & Head,
Dept. of Medical Statistics and Epidemiology
Hamad Medical Corporation &
Dept. of Public Health, Weill Cornell Medical College
PO Box 3050,
Doha-QATAR
Office Tel: + 974- 4439 3765
Office Tel: + 974- 4439 3766
Fax:+ 974-4439 3769
e-mail: abener@hmc.org.qa
e-mail: abb2007@qatar-med.cornell.edu

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

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

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

**Declaration of competing interests:**

'I declare that I have no competing interests'