Reviewer's report

Title: Outbreak of acute gastroenteritis in an air force base in Western Greece

Version: 2 Date: 17 August 2006

Reviewer: Steen Ethelberg

Reviewer's report:

General

This second version is much better than the first. The points I raised in the first review has generally been taken care of.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

The English is still far from perfect. Also the revisions have introduced new errors. As an example of this follows here two sentences from the M&M section: Specifically, there was an effort to interview as many people as possible and to obtain the same number of cases and controls, respectfully. Unfortunately, this was inevitable because of the special characteristics of the incidence. Many similar examples can be found. I would very strongly advise the authors to seek help from somebody who write correct English. I know these things are unfair (and being a non-native English writing person myself, I know how difficult English can be), but I don’t think the MS is publishable in its current state.

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

OR: 367.7 (95% CI: 47.6-7729.9) Very precise! I suggest 370, 48 and 7700 (by the way the X-square test normally give p-values).

Figures and tables are duplicated.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

I would rewrite the first two paragraphs of the Background section (i.e. most of page 4). It contains several slightly strange statements. Gives the whole paper a bad start.

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

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

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

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests’.