Reviewer’s report

Title: Potential for early warning of viral influenza activity in the community by monitoring clinical diagnoses of influenza in hospital emergency departments

Version: 2 Date: 5 July 2007

Reviewer: Tom Burr

Reviewer’s report:

General

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

These were done.

Comment that need not be addressed:
your manuscript raises the question whether this potential early warning can actually be exploited.
To test, how will you define the onset of influenza season? How would you test?
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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)

These were done.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept without revision

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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.