Reviewer's report

Title: Spread pattern of the first dengue epidemics in the City of Salvador, Brazil

Version: 1 Date: 8 March 2007

Reviewer: Maria G G Guzman

Reviewer's report:

General
Information of transmission dynamic is of interest for dengue surveillance, prevention and control. In this manuscript, authors take in advantage the beginning of dengue transmission in Brazilian city in order to document the temporo-spatial transmission of dengue

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
• Authors use the clinical reports of non confirmed dengue cases so some vias of the information can be expected
• Please include How many cases were confirmed during this epidemic and % of confirmation to have an idea of the adequacy of obtained data
• The size and population number of the area of epicenter, the number of weeks between first cases and the pick of the epidemic and the number of weeks after epidemic extended to others areas must be carefully discussed. It is very important to identify the time interval needed to control the early transmission before the explosion of the epidemic. These topics should be better discussed
• Recent references should be included

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

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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'