Reviewer’s report

Title: Cost of dengue and other febrile illnesses to households in rural Cambodia: A prospective community-based case-control study

Version: 1 Date: 30 January 2009

Reviewer: Sokrin Khun

Reviewer’s report:

I think this is an excellent piece of work of research and worth publishing. The authors have designed clear methodology and conducted great data collection and analysis. The findings are supportive to similar studies in Cambodia and elsewhere.

I have some comments regarding this work:

1. The authors should clearly state what types interviews they used to interview the parents/legal guardians
2. The authors should clearly state how they analyze qualitative data
3. The authors should use some qualitative data in their findings
4. The authors interestingly stated dengue cases tended to occur less often in households with a high educational status of the father? Why?
5. The authors should expand on the amount of money that the Equity Fund covers for medical costs and the travel for each admitted patient
6. The authors mentioned the importance of dengue vaccine development in the conclusion section. I think these sentences should be placed elsewhere. The authors should give their conclusive comments regarding the ability to pay for dengue, the solutions for user-fee exemptions and the Equity Fund.