Reviewer's report

Title: Cost-effectiveness of Rotavirus Vaccination in Vietnam

Version: 2 Date: 19 November 2008

Reviewer: Mark Jit

Reviewer's report:

Kim and co-workers have revised their manuscript based on comments from two reviewers. The new manuscript is substantially improved, and I look forward to seeing it published. In particular, their explanation of the way key parameters in the model were estimated is much more transparent. I only have one follow-on comment.

Major compulsory revision

I agree with the authors that the rate of waning of vaccine protection in Vietnam is uncertain and difficult to impute from clinical trials conducted in other countries. However, I disagree that the solution is to assume that there is no vaccine waning. When a parameter in a decision model is unknown but unlikely to be zero, the solution is to vary it within a plausible range rather than removing it from the model entirely (which would have the effect of assuming it takes a particular value, i.e. zero). If this is not possible, then I think it is important to discuss the implications in the text, particularly given that the incremental cost-effectiveness ratio of vaccination found in the study is very close to the cost-effectiveness threshold. That is, there should be a mention that the assumption of no waning in the first 5 years of age is unlikely to be realistic, and hence the model may slightly overestimate the effect of vaccination.

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

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.