Reviewer’s report

Title: Measuring the Burden of Arboviral Diseases: The Spectrum of Morbidity and Mortality of Four Classic Infections

Version: 1  Date: 29 July 2010

Reviewer: lalit das

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Essential revision: Tables and figures: Year should be mentioned. DALY is estimated for each year.

Discretionary revision

(1) This is reasonably a good manuscript and deserves publication in Population Health Metrics considering the paucity of data available and nature of squeal of the diseases reported.

(2) The research question is well defined and precise.

(3) Methods are appropriate. However, some further explanation is required on the following aspects.

   a. There are few assumptions in the methodology like using disability weights (DW) for some disease sequale with analogue DW taken from GBD studies. Some more discussion is needed in this aspect to tell the readers that in absence of published DW for these conditions other closely similar conditions were used.

   b. It will be appropriate to explain the reasons for excluding 172 studies for analysis.

   c. DALY is usually estimated on the basis of age and gender class and is presented in thousands (,000), not in range. A discount of 3% is also adopted to maintain uniformity for comparison because DALY is a measure generally to prioritization of diseases for intervention.

(4) Data well controlled and presented well.

(5) Standards are maintained

(6) Discussion and conclusion satisfactory

(7) Abstract is well balanced

(8) Writing is acceptable.

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' below