Reviewer's report

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

Version: 1 Date: 27 September 2010

Reviewer: Mohsen Naghavi

Reviewer's report:

• Major Compulsory Revisions:

  1- are there any validation process for these results, especially for number of death or clinical occurrence of these four diseases in around 2005 for some counties with very good notification data or death registry? If there are these validator results, authors should explain, if there are not these process, authors should explain how they can validate their results.

  2- Authors should put their estimation in a table by age (in grouping format), sex and by each disease for clinical (or symptomatic) incidence rate (or number), death, YLD, YLL and DALYs. This table is big, but we can have that as an electronic attach to the paper in this journal.

  3- it would be better if authors addressed that after all literature review and using reported data; for which countries or regions they fined data point (by year). In other words they should show what are the sources for these estimations.

  4- Their estimation for DALY (3, 0) is between 120000-2380000, this range is very big. This big interval needs more explanation in discussion part. Also a very big interval for estimated deaths per year for Chikungunya in table 1 (33-25761) or for yellow fever 675-30000. What is the logic behind of these big intervals?

• Minor Essential Revisions:

  1- in page 10 first paragraph it is not clear that lower mortality due to Chikungunya virus infection 1 per 1000 mortality is in general population or in infected population

  2- In table 2 what is the reference for 0-2% “Survivor’s risk for multi-year or permanent disability”

• Discretionary Revisions:

  1- It will be better if we had a table that shows in one column each Sequelae (selected by authors and attributed) for each diseases and appropriate sequelae from GBD DW table in other column. In last column of this table they should put DW for each adjusted sequelae

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