Reviewer’s report

Title: Usefulness of case reports in managing emerging infectious disease

Version: 1 Date: 22 October 2010

Reviewer: ELIE G. DIB

Comments to authors:

The concept and the intent of the editorial are good.

However, I would like to make the following comment: the editorial states that case reports would alert physicians about possible upcoming/emerging infections. “For example, they state: the first case report in each country is usually the starting point to draw attention from local physicians and medical scientist.” That is true when such cases are reported to governmental monitoring institutions such as the CDC in the USA. However, having a case report to be peer-reviewed and published in a journal might take a long time. I would advise the authors to elaborate on this point and states how JMCR policy (in theory) could remedy the delays in publications of interesting emerging infectious diseases. In addition, it would be interesting to include in the editorial if JMCR itself has published any case reports about emerging infectious diseases. The editorial also need some copy-editing.