Reviewer's report

Title: Respiratory tract virus infections in the elderly with pneumonia

Version: 0 Date: 29 Oct 2018

Reviewer: Danan Gu

Reviewer's report:

The paper addresses an important topic and is a good shape. I only have some minor comments to share with you.

1. Introduction: The heading should be renamed to "Background" to be consistent with the Author Guide.

2. In Introduction(Background): "...have been shown to associate with more severe pneumonia and longer hospitalization periods [14-17]". The sentence has a grammatical error.

3. In Methods: Although the Author has published a paper using this sample (likely with some information about study sample), more detailed information about the selection of study population is still needed in this manuscript. I am not sure whether this study sample is representative of the population.

4. In Methods: I did not see the variable of sex. Given the sex difference in prevalence/incidence or cause of death related to pneumonia and respiratory tract virus infections, it may be informative to add sex dimension in the analysis.

5. In Results: Too many subheadings. Consider dropping them if possible.

6. In Discussion: "Our analyses among the elderly showed no differences...." Please drop "among the elderly".
**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Does the work include the necessary controls?**
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?**
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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