Reviewer's report

Title: Dengue NS1 antigen as a marker of severe clinical disease

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Reviewer: Trung Dinh The

Reviewer's report:

The authors have revised the manuscript a lot and it is now better. However, I still have concerns about some issues I mentioned in my previous report.

Major Compulsary Revisions:
1. The overall proportions of NS1 antigen positivity in severe dengue and non severe dengue groups were not much different (55.3% vs 50%). I’m still not clear why the authors didn’t include day 3 and 4 of illness for the analysis of dengue prediction (there was quite many patients in day 4 of illness - 43 patients). I think if we do this, the association between NS1 antigen positivity and dengue severity will be lower (the proportions of NS1 antigen positivity in severe dengue and non severe dengue groups in day 4 were quite similar, Figure 1).

2. The authors compared the sensitivity and specificity of NS1 ELISA and NS1 rapid tests in terms of dengue diagnosis not in terms of prediction of severe dengue. I think it is careful when we conclude that NS1 rapid test can be used to predict severe dengue (The conclusion of the abstract and the last sentence of the manuscript).

Minor Essential Revisions:
1. In the “Statistical analysis” and Table 1: The words “differences in means” are not approriate when the data were not normally distributed.

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

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