Reviewer's report

Title: Evidence of West Nile Virus Infection in Nepal

Version: 6  Date: 3 October 2014

Reviewer: Khin Myint

Reviewer's report:

Discretionary Revisions:
Line 77: “to detect WNV”; suggest to change to “WNV RNA”.

Line 80: “All studies were”; if a single study, suggest changing to “The study was”.

Lines 88-89: Was the analysis per in-house protocols and are they in public domain (REF 10)? If not please remove the reference.

Lines 97-99: With high specificity of the WNV ELISA kit (mentioned in the rebuttal) it is highly possible that there were some additional WNV cases serologically confirmed which would strengthen the paper. Recommend to add in the statement “14 had convalescent blood samples positive for WNV antibody by ELISA with most (as there was one DEN positive) excluded for DEN and JE.

Lines 128-130: The added statement “This could represent a co-infection or cross-reactive elevation of pre-existing dengue antibodies upon infection with another flavivirus”. Suggest to change to “upon immune boosting with another flavivirus”.

Lines 152-153: “Our study identified two cases of WNV infection present in acute sera collected from two febrile patients from a study...”; suggest changing to
- Our study identified two cases of WNV infection confirmed by RT-PCR and deep sequencing (OR)
- Our study identified two confirmed cases of WNV infection by advanced molecular and XX probable cases by serological techniques.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests: None