Reviewer’s report

Title: Return of pandemic H1N1 influenza virus

Version: 1 Date: 23 October 2014

Reviewer: Kin On Kwok

Reviewer’s report:

A comprehensive introduction was written to initiate the motive of the study.

However, there were still many unclear descriptions and wordings throughout the main-text.

A) Minor revision
In terms of wordings, I have following comments

The text in the manuscript should not be written as short form
e.g. line 104 lab should be written as laboratory
line 121 significantly ---> relatively?

In line 137 "Patients of different ages are infected" is a sub section title
and in line 150 "Pregnant women are particularly sensitive to A(H1N1)pdm09 infection"
and they should be in noun form
line 166 the increased?

In terms of the figures, I have following comments

For the order of the figure, I wonder why figure 2 and 4 was mentioned before figure 1 and figure 3 in the main text.

In figure 1, x-axis corresponds to week of the year. The numbers marked in x-axis in year 2009 (8,14,20,26,32) are
different from the numbers marked in year 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013. Can the author make some edits on the charts
so the readers of this paper are able to have thorough understanding on the positive rate in different time periods.

The figure legend in figure 2 is not clear
figure 2a is the percentages of .... at the peak
figure 2b is annual percentages ??
"..... at the peak (a) of the
356 infection period and annually (b)."

In figure 3, I wonder why 2010-2012 was considered as one category to look at
the postive rate for pregant individuals
instead of two categories 2010-2011 and 2011-2012.
The word "Pregnancy" can be taken away from the y-axis and the author can
provide the information of that in the
figure 4 legend
The title of legend 4 should be noun for example The percentage of postivie
cases for pregnant women.
The sentence "Pregnant women are especially vulnerable to the pandemic 2009
virus" should be in main text.

figure Legend 5 The numbers indicate the different subgroups of the pandemic
influenza viruses
"the" should be taken away

In terms of the table presentation, I have following suggestions
It is suggested to widen the width of the column.
In table 1, 120 4 in the column HA reverse corresponds to 1204?
In table 2, sig. should be p-value ?

In terms of statistical tools, 95% confidence interval is referring to binomial
confidence interval (line 104)?

For the rest of statistical analysis, I am fine.

Major revision
In the discussion section, I expect the first paragraph is to restate the main
findings rather than repeting the contents
mentioned already in the introduction.

In line 163 to 166
"A simple logistic regression analysis showed that within
the group of pregnant women, no differences in the ages of the infected women
were
noticed throughout the year"

I expect most of the pregnant women should be in the age 21-45. What is the
age distribution of pregnant women.
As in figure 3, 21-40 and 41-60 contributes a lot of infection from 2009
and 2013. I wonder whether it is due to the age effect?
Do you mean age (say 21-45) cannot explain the infection
among the pregnant women? Are you using continuous age as the exposure variable?
Can you present this logistic regression as a supplementary table?
I suggest to construct the main table with demographics say age, sex and % positive in different years. #

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

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

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**
I declare that I have no competing interests