Reviewer’s report

Title: Risk factors of febrile respiratory illness and mono-viral infections in a semi-closed military environment: a case-control study

Version: 2 Date: 11 May 2015

Reviewer: Delphis Vera

Reviewer’s report:

This version of the manuscript has addressed all comments/suggestions from the major and discretionary revisions. Those are adequately reflected in the revised version of the manuscript. The answers have been well supported and have clarified and strengthened the study methodology, and therefore the conclusions in answer to the specific scientific question.

Major Compulsory Revisions
None.

Minor Essential Revisions
None.

Discretionary Revisions
Even though all comments/suggestions have been addressed and are reflected in the revised version of the manuscript, it would be highly recommended that the authors should consider make clear that the aim of the study is to determine the potential risk factors for febrile respiratory illness (FRI) and not necessarily the etiology of FRI. By making comparisons of FRI by subsets of subjects with the five most-common viral pathogens, you indirectly pointing out the audience a causal etiology of all the study cases. Moreover, making that comparison one of the major points of analysis and discussion in the study may confuse the reader in terms of the study objectives.

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.