Reviewer’s report

Title: Streptococcus pneumoniae colonisation in children and adolescents with asthma: impact of the heptavalent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine and evaluation of potential effect of thirteen-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine

Version: 0 Date: 29 Jul 2015

Reviewer: Florens G.A. Versteegh

Reviewer’s report:

- the manuscript might gain in clarity by shortening it. It seems a little unstructured.

- there is no control group.

- the authors might want to explain more clearly the differences in usefulness of nasopharyngeal swabs vs oropharyngeal swabs and the differences in importance of nasal vs mouth vs lung colonisation and their relation.

- page 5 line 85: the authors might want to explain how vaccination reduces carriage in unvaccinated subjects.

- page 10 line 200-2:

- page 10 line 222: are there more references to this statement from other countries?

- page 11 line 225: are there more references to this statement?

- page 11 line 237-42: Bisgaard concludes: "Neonates colonized in the hypopharyngeal region with S. pneumoniae, H. influenzae, or M. catarrhalis, or with a combination of these organisms, are at increased risk for recurrent wheeze and asthma early in life." So not solely S. pneumoniae.

- page 13 line 282: t = it? lit = it?

- the authors might want to refer/comment to the paper by le Polain de Waroux et al PIDJ 2015;34:858 and the paper by Fleming-Dutra et al PIDJ 2014;33;S152.

- when I understand the results properly the authors might conclude more strongly that vaccination with PCV7 doesn't influence carriage with S. pneumoniae at all, at least in asthmatic children. And might expand a little more on the usefulness then of this vaccination.

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.

No

**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 recommend additional statistical review

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

Needs some language corrections before being published

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