**Reviewer’s report**

**Title:** The interplay between individual social behavior and clinical symptoms in small clustered groups

**Version:** 0  **Date:** 09 Jan 2017

**Reviewer:** Ngai Sze Wong

**Reviewer's report:**

1. Methods, individual social activity and dynamic proximity network: the symbol cannot be shown normally in the pdf version. Please double check and revise.

2. Line 105-110: I would consider these sentences as limitation instead of METHODS. You may relocate to limitation part.

3. It would be easier for readers if the exact figure of incubation period and serial interval is shown in text, e.g. duration of the incubation period (xx days)

4. 1st sentence (line 129-131), Result: this sentence should be stated in METHODS instead of Results. Also, for the "absence of isolated (disconnected) clusters of individuals", I don't understand fully. Do you mean individuals who ever had any connection with other individuals? And how did you define connection? Is there any cut-off value (e.g. an individual met with another individual for >1 minutes)?

5. Line 135: when presenting the average time spent, could you include the standard deviation as well?

6. Paragraph of "epidemiological links associated with influenza-like illness", Results: this paragraph seems to be a mix of results and discussion. Please note that "results" are presentation of study findings only. Please restructure and relocate relevant parts to discussion.

7. Line 179, "less than 50% of cases observed during follow-up period": when calculating the proportion, I'm wondering if there was a wash out period at the very beginning. It's common for the first case to have infection outside the network if he/she was infected before the study started, and you may want to exclude that.

8. Discussion: it's a bit strange for having no reference cited and no previous studies compared and discussed here. You may want to expand this further, besides relocating the sentences as stated in Comment 6.
9. Please don't cite the previous work by "suggested by [23]", "observed [24]". Please either show the name of author followed by [ref], or delete "suggested by [23]" and directly cite [23] at the end of the sentence.

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.

Unable to assess

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

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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