**Reviewer’s report**

**Title:** Seroprevalence of Herpes Simplex Virus type-2 (HSV-2) among pregnant women who participated in a national HIV surveillance activity in Haiti

**Version:** 0  **Date:** 15 May 2017

**Reviewer:** Sofia Bartlett

**Reviewer's report:**

This manuscript reports a study that was performed using samples collected in Haiti from pregnant women undergoing routine screening for HIV and syphilis as part of a sentinel surveillance survey. The authors have investigated the prevalence of HSV-2 seropositivity among this sample using two commercially available tests.

Given the paucity of data in regards to seropositivity for HSV-2 among women in Haiti, and also previous demonstration of poor performance of some tests among certain populations, this is an important study.

Some minor English language revision would enhance the overall quality of this manuscript, in addition to some editing.

Page 9. line 50- Page 10. line 10

This text is repeated from the previous section and should be removed.

Page 10. line 21

Replace word 'researches' with 'research'.

Page 10. line 29

Replace word 'resources' with 'resource'.
Page 10 line 31

Replace word 'epidemic' with 'epidemics'.

Page 10 line 46

Replace 'significantly different than' with 'significantly different to' or 'significantly different from'.

Page 11 line 16

Replace 'in Haitian population' with 'in this Haitian population'.

Page 11 line 21

Can you please elaborate further as to what a 'very reasonable sensitivity and specificity' cut off for HSV-2 serology would be? Are you comparing to the cut off in other populations? If so, please specify this here for ease of comparison.

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.

Yes

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 am able to assess the statistics
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal