Reviewer’s report

Title: Sero-epidemiology study of leptospirosis in febrile patients from Terai region of Nepal

Version: 0 Date: 28 Jul 2017

Reviewer: Pranatharthi Chandrasekar

Reviewer’s report:

The paper evaluates the seroprevalence of leptospirosis in 3 clinics and 1 hospital in Nepal during a 3-month period in 2014, among patients with febrile illnesses. The authors found 30 of 144 pts (21%) were seropositive (IgM) for leptospirosis.

The paper is of some interest. However significant weaknesses are present-

1- Short study duration of 3 months, meaningful conclusions are hard to draw.

2- IgM was the only study performed to assess the presence of acute leptospirosis. There were no other conventional tests like MAT, cultures or convalescent serologies for confirmatory purposes.

3- There were only 144 during the entire study period from 4 different sites. Hard to believe that the total # of patients was only 144. Were these all patients who were febrile? If there were others, why were they excluded?

4- Was a multivariate analysis performed? If not, why? If done, what were the results?

5- There are previous publications from Nepal cited by the authors to highlight leptospirosis as a common cause of febrile illness. What new information does this paper provide?

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.

No
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:

Acceptable

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