Reviewer’s report

Title: Estimation of the incidence of severe fever with thrombocytopenia syndrome in high endemic areas in China: An inpatient-based retrospective study

Version: 1 Date: 30 Oct 2017

Reviewer: Magnus Evander

Reviewer's report:

INFD-D-17-00793R1

Abstract

Line 29. The authors need to explain the abbreviations, "PLT" and "WBC" in the abstract text

Line 38. "thrombocytopenia and thrombocytopenia" should be "thrombocytopenia and leukopenia"

Background

Line 61. According to the ICTV (see web link) SFTSV will be in the Phlebovirus genus of the Phenuiviridae family. Change to Phenuiviridae. Please use italics for family and genus.

https://talk.ictvonline.org/taxonomy/

Click on order Bunyavirales and check families etc

Material and Methods

Line 91. The authors write that they chose 3 areas with a high, medium and low incidence of SFTS in each province. However, they never present any data on the differences within these three areas in the results. Either they should present those data or remove this text from material and methods.

Line 141-142. The authors write about a real-time RT-PCR, but they never present data on any viral RNA load in the patients. Either they should present those data or remove this from material and methods.
Results.

Line 154-155. "thrombocytopenia and thrombocytopenia" should be "thrombocytopenia and leukopenia"

Line 192. "and 9 (50%) were female" should instead be "and 7 (50%) were female"

Availability of data and material

Line 313. The OD data from the Elisa-analyses are not included. Could be a supplementary table.

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 recommend additional statistical review

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

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