Reviewer’s report

Title: Seroprevalence of dengue IgG antibodies in symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals three years after an outbreak in Zhejiang Province, China

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Reviewer: Matthias Niedrig

Reviewer’s report:

The manuscript describes the analysis of 59 symptomatic and 48 asymptomatic persons infected in a Dengue outbreak 2009. The presence of antibodies in these individuals were analysed in the PanBio IgG ELISA. The report is easy to understand and provides little information for reader. The higher rate of Dengue seropositivity in Dengue patients compared to asymptomatic cases is not a real surprise.

The number of samples analysed is rather low.

Therefore it is a pity that the quantity of Dengue specific IgGs could not be analysed due to the missing quantitative results. It would be interesting to know how much the antibody titre decreases within the 3 years. This is a significant limitation of the study.

For the following statement please provide the references of the previous reports or delete the sentence.

"According to previous reports, the existence of dengue antibodies could enhance dengue infection and zika infection."

This description is part of the Dengue sample characterisation and should be in M&M.

"No dengue outbreak occurred from 2009 to 2012 in Zhejiang Province, and all patients and asymptomatic individuals hadn't traveled to dengue endemic areas during these years."

Since the information of this investigation is rather limited I suggest condensing the manuscript for a note, a short communication or letter if possible.

The study describes several limitations but listed just three. However there are some more lessons to learn how to improve such seroprevalence studies. There should be also a verification of the PanBio ELISA results by other serological assays.

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?
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No

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
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