Reviewer's report

Title: Spatio-temporal analysis of the relationship between meteorological factors and hand-foot-mouth disease in Beijing, China

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Reviewer: Alexandre Manirakiza

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Spatio-temporal analysis of the relationship between meteorological factors and handfoot-mouth disease in Beijing, China

It is clear that the focus on the relationship between meteorological factors and HFMD incidence in Beijing. In the introduction, the authors referred to previous studies in which epidemiological characteristics, meteorological variables and spatiotemporal patterns of HFMD have been studied at different scales of China, and even at national level of this country.

The demographic and socio-economic characteristics of cases could affect the HFMD incidence, why these factors are not taken into account in the analysis model as confounders? The authors assumed that a period of three years enough and state that analyze data from a much longer time period should be necessary. Hence, they assume that this study is an ecological one. This is somehow contradictory to the objective of the study.

In conclusion (line 46): please change "….prevalence of HFMD…” in "….incidence of HFMD…"

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? 
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes
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