Reviewer’s report

Title: Development of a TaqMan Array Card to Target 21 Purulent Meningitis-related pathogens

Version: 0 Date: 06 Dec 2018

Reviewer: Vinod B Patel

Reviewer’s report:

This a PCR technique to detect a panel of pathogens found in a paediatric population. The control samples were those who had similar symptoms but not meningitis. A artificial CSF was also an additional control.

The study is well done and has taken care to safeguards against pitfalls in the study.

Apart from a few english errors the article bears merit and a larger study to test its effectiveness especially in partially treated acute bacterial meningitides would be valuable with clinical controls being other non acute bacterial meningitides, such as TBM, patients with non-specific CSF changes, but not normal CSF.

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?
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Yes

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I recommend additional statistical review

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:
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