Reviewer’s report

Title: Demographic characteristics of transfusion-transmitted infections among blood donors in China

Version: 1 Date: 05 Apr 2019

Reviewer: Cyrill Jacquot

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript is difficult to read due to English grammar and syntax issues. It needs to be proofread and edited so the reader can better understand the findings and conclusions.

It is unclear to me why the control group for this study consists of donors with negative TTI testing but elevated ALT. This test is no longer used to screen donors in the United States due to poor sensitivity and specificity. Why were donors with normal ALT not selected for comparison? The three month duration is very specific - what is the reason for these three months in 2015?

It appears to nucleic acid testing (NAT) is not performed up front. Is that correct? Without NAT, the window period for detecting TTI is higher and this can compromise blood supply safety.

Please use brackets [ ] instead of parentheses with parentheses (on page 9 for example) - avoid (age(18-25): ____ ) and use (age[18-25]:____).

I would change "donor times" to "previous donation history" to clarify that you are comparing first-time to repeat donors.

This histogram images are blurry and hard to read with the grey scale.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

No

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess
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.

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

Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Declaration of competing interests
Please complete a declaration of competing interests, considering the following questions:

1. Have you in the past five years received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

2. Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organisation that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future?

3. Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

4. Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript?

5. Do you have any other financial competing interests?

6. Do you have any non-financial competing interests in relation to this paper?

If you can answer no to all of the above, write 'I declare that I have no competing interests' below. If your reply is yes to any, please give details below.

I declare that I have no competing interests.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal. I understand that my name will be included on my report to the authors and, if the manuscript is accepted for publication, my named report including any attachments I upload will be posted on the website along with the authors' responses. I agree for my report to be made available under an Open Access Creative Commons CC-BY license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). I understand that any comments which I do not wish to be included in my named report can be included as confidential comments to the editors, which will not be published.

I agree to the open peer review policy of the journal.