Reviewer’s report

Title: Seasonal variation in haematological and biochemical reference values for healthy young children in The Gambia

Version: 5 Date: 17 December 2015

Reviewer: Bertrand Dr Lell

Reviewer’s report:

The authors present a manuscript that is much improved compared to the first two versions.
Reference values are now given for all clinical chemistry parameters and they now have reasonable limits, broadly consistent with reference values of other populations.
I would have liked to see their comments on the reviewers remarks on the second version, but they seem to be missing.

Minor Essential Revisions
The number of significant digits of reference values should correspond to that of the original measurement. For example, the albumin reference interval of 25.9-47.1 gives a false impression of precision and should be rounded to 26 – 47.

There are a lot of tables and one could put table 4 into the supplement section as well. The value of the cubic spline is specialised information that doesn’t need to be in the main text.

As pointed out in the remarks of the first two manuscript versions, creatinine units are misspelled as „µmmol“. Hopefully, the authors will be able to change it before publication.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests