Reviewer's report

Title: Using a practical molecular capsular serotype prediction strategy to investigate Streptococcus pneumoniae serotype distribution and antimicrobial resistance in Chinese local hospitalized children

Version: 2 Date: 28 September 2015

Reviewer: Allan Truant

Reviewer's report:

Major Revisions
The authors in several areas of the manuscript have cited the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI), for example in lines 180, and 273. The authors also mention "new susceptibility breakpoints for S. pneumoniae in the United States" in line 365. There appears to be no citation of the version/source used within the manuscript or the references. The current version of the pertinent CLSI standard is CLSI M100-S25 (January, 2015), volume 35, No. 3 which replaced M100-S24. The authors should specify which version was used, and should preferably use the most current version of the CLSI standard. Alternatively, the authors could use the version which was in place during the time of the study period and then discuss changes made since that time and what the differences might be scientifically and clinically.

Minor Revisions
Line 50, systematic to replace systemic
Line 80, capsular to replace capsule
Line 109, delete "were"
Line 180, CLSI is the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute
Lines 209-211 needs to be re-written/re-phrased for clarity
Line 309, typeable
Line 320, share the same sequence.....
Line 371, replace administrated with treated (or similar term)
Lines 382, 384, should be "et al."
Line 421, should be, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Line 423, see CLSI above

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

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published
Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

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