Reviewer’s report

Title: Risk of seizures after immunization in children with epilepsy: A risk interval analysis

Version: 0 Date: 20 Oct 2017

Reviewer: Elaine C Wirrell

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This paper is a retrospective study on the risk of seizures after vaccination in children<7 yrs.

The paper is of interest but could be improved with a few modifications.

1. The study would be much crisper if the inclusion criteria were modified to include ONLY pts who had vaccinations - ie include only those pts who could be assessed both during the risk period (after vaccination) and non risk period. Thus, the analysis should be limited only to those who had immunization records available AND had a vaccine during the study period. The extra data on pts who never had vaccines, or had no vaccine records available is not relevant to the study and is distracting.

2. Why did so many families not allow release of vaccine records? Was this because families were not contactable, or because they actually refused release. How many times did the authors try to contact them.

3. The authors may miss some seizures as not all families will call with every sz. However, would likely have detected more severe seizures or seizure clusters that were out of the ordinary

4. Table 3 - is this based on 80 pts who had vaccines, as opposed to 147?

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.

Yes

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

Yes
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 am able to assess the statistics

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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