Reviewer’s report

Title: Evaluation of the vitamin D and biomedical statuses of young children with β-thalassemia major at a single center in southern China

Version: 0 Date: 28 Aug 2019

Reviewer: Robert Simpson

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript "Evaluation of the vitamin D and biomedical statuses of young children with β-thalassemia major at a single center in southern China" submitted by authors U. Yu et al is a clinical report and review of the literature of vitamin D status in young patients with β-thalassemia in China. The authors report that of the clinical evaluation of several measurable health related blood factors Vitamin D deficiency was observed in the population of older children with β-thalassemia. The report adequately discusses the health consequences of such a finding. The report is well written and clearly states the limitations of the data presented.

Suggested changes:

1. In the discussion section it would help to more clearly discuss the etiology for OLDER children being vitamin D insufficient versus the Younger children.

2. On page 4 line 34 delete the word , however,

3. On page 4 line 46 delete or find a better more discriptive term the wore: 'unsynthesized' .

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?  
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 recommend additional statistical review
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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