Reviewer’s report

Title: Evaluating progress towards triple elimination of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, syphilis and hepatitis B in the Netherlands

Version: 1 Date: 10 Jan 2019

Reviewer: Sonja Caffe

Reviewer's report:

This is a well-written and technically sound paper. I submit the following questions/comments for consideration to be clarified by the authors:

1. Lines 92-95 state that screening coverage is estimated by dividing the number of women screened by the number of children born in the Netherlands half a year later, and correction of the denominator for loss of pregnancies and multiple births. In a later paragraph, starting on line 126, the paper implies that there is registration of stillbirths and fetal loss, however, this is not explicitly mentioned, only that there is no documentation of the syphilis status of the mother. It would be good to know whether this happens routinely and comprehensively.

2. The authors do not comment on how voluntary abortions relate to the issues raised and data presented in the paper.

3. In the syphilis paragraph starting on line 179 the text appears to suggest that only women with active syphilis can transmit to their infants, while WHO and CDC recommend that women with primary, secondary, and early as well as late latent syphilis (> 1 year) should be treated to avoid adverse pregnancy outcomes.

4. The paper does not specify whether sexual partners of syphilis-reactive pregnant women are included in routine testing and/or treatment.
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 am able to assess the statistics

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