Reviewer’s report

Title: Cerebrospinal fluid pleocytosis level as a diagnostic predictor? A cross-sectional study.

Version: 2 Date: 18 Jun 2017

Reviewer: Anita Koshy

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for splitting up Table 3 into verified and probable infection. The utility of this split is seen in the fact that the "probable" infectious causes of pleocytosis actually have a much lower mean or median CSF WBC count than the verified cases. Thank you for address the patient with ~2000 WBC in the CSF in the discussion.

The only essential correction is that in table III the percentages for verified and probable make no sense to me (i.e. for CSF leukocytosis of 6-10 in the verified group, the n = 4 out of 59, which is 6.7%, not 63.3%. Same issue with all of the percentages in the verified and probable groups.)

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

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