Reviewer’s report

Title: Single low-dose primaquine for blocking transmission of Plasmodium falciparum malaria - a proposed model-derived age-based regimen for sub-Saharan Africa

Version: 0 Date: 28 Jul 2017

Reviewer: Rashad Abdul-Ghani

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript by Taylor et al. is timely and clinically relevant for malaria elimination in light of the increasing interest of transmission-blocking interventions for falciparum malaria, particularly in the absence of clinically approved vaccines. The adoption of age-based G6PD deficiency-independent regimens of LSDPQ from anthropometric databases is further interesting. However, I have some minor comments that may contribute to the improvement of the manuscript:

- The abbreviation "ACT" should be "artemisinin-based combination therapy".

- The authors used two spelling styles: "organization" and "organisation".

- Greater Mekong Subregion was abbreviated though it had been mentioned once. The authors may need to revise all abbreviations, and for terms mentioned only once, there is no justification for their abbreviation. Please check all abbreviations for the terms that have been mentioned once throughout the manuscript.

- The paragraph "One of us (WRJ Taylor) approached individuals explaining the purpose of this project and requesting relevant, anonymised anthropometric, demographic, geographical, and haematological data for this project. All those who freely gave data were expected to provide feedback on the study and co-author the paper." Is unclear to me, and may need to be clarified further.

- Can authors explain why they used Fisher's exact test not Pearson's chi-square test for male-female differences? Is it more accurate?

- The authors used the term "age-dosing SLDPQ regimen". I think it would be better written as "age-based SLDOQ regimen" to be consistent with the title.

- What is the opinion of the authors about modeling the regimen based on body mass index or weight instead of age because doses are calculated per kg weight? Can this issue be discussed in the paper?
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.

Unable to assess

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  
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Acceptable

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