Reviewer’s report

Title: C-reactive protein as a potential biomarker for disease progression in dengue: A multicountry observational study

Version: 1 Date: 16 Nov 2019

Reviewer: Junxiong Pang

Reviewer's report:

I appreciate and applaud the effort of the authors in addressing my comments critically.

I am fine with the comments and revisions. However, I would like to suggest that the authors at least highlight the following pointers in the limitation section of the study for more accurate interpretation of the findings for potential implementation or trials in near future.

1. "A more common intervention is fluid transfusion (other than blood products) but we did not consider it as confounder because there is no apparent evidence that fluid transfusion could affect the CRP level."

2. "As severe/intermediate group may have different demographical characteristics (especially age) to uncomplicated dengue, it is expected that tested and un-tested patients would be different with respect to those features."

3. "Other factors, such as bacteria coinfection, antibiotic usage and comorbidity, had unclear potential relationship with either CRP level and clinical outcome and therefore, they were not considered for the adjustment."

4. "As the sample size was unbalanced between day of illness and DOI 1 was unlikely to have a clinical event, we decided to adjust for DOI rather than to conduct a stratification analysis on this factor."

Thank you.

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

Quality of written English
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