Reviewer’s report

Title: Brucellosis in livestock and wildlife: zoonotic diseases without pandemic potential in need of innovative One Health approaches

Version: 0 Date: 27 Apr 2017

Reviewer: Marius Gilbert

Reviewer’s report:

The paper by Jacques Godfroid addresses the disease ecology of brucellosis in livestock and wildlife in the One health context.

Overall, I found the paper to be very interesting, though with a very strong veterinary epidemiology and ecological focus. The added value of considering the interplay between veterinary epidemiology and ecology is very clearly highlighted, especially when it comes to contrasting surveillance strategy in enzootic vs. disease-free regions, and developed vs. developing countries. However, the public health dimension of brucellosis was not much developed, so those unfamiliar with this zoonose may lack the necessary public health context of its surveillance and control. Below are a few comments that the author may find useful in revising the paper.

General comments:

1. There was relatively little information on the public health aspects of brucellosis, so it may be useful to remind the reader with a few key facts and figures on the public health aspect of brucellosis in the developed vs. developing world.

2. I found the section on the ethical dimension of veterinary culling to be somewhat detached from the previous section on brucellosis, and to some extent, a bit of scope. I fully agree that this is a very important question that would deserve to be addressed in a OH context, especially in conditions where veterinary and public health interests don't align, but I felt it would then take an entire paper to treat this more extensively. As it is currently, there isn't truly the space to address it in all its ethical dimensions, and the reader is left with a feeling that this was a bit of an add-on.

3. The paper was submitted as a 'Systematic review', and I feel that this may be more of a 'Commentary', which is subject to a limit in length. In order to remain within the length limits, maybe the author could consider saving space by removing or reducing the sections on the ethical dimensions of culling, that could then give space to a couple of paragraphs on the public health aspect of brucellosis that would ease the reading of those unfamiliar with this disease?

Minor comments:
1. In a few instances, the author indicated the link to a report that could be replaced by a proper reference (e.g. line 39, line 151);

3. In noted duplicated sentences between the abstract and some of the text section (e.g. line 12-15 & 51-54), which may be better to be avoided.

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An article of importance in its field

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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