Reviewer's report

Title: Incidence, distribution, seasonality, and demographic risk factors of Salmonella Enteritidis human infections in Ontario, Canada, 2007-2009

Version: 1 Date: 7 October 2012

Reviewer: Marina Salvadori

Reviewer's report:

Discretionary Revisions
1. The use of the word "gender" does not conform to the World Health Organization definition and in this paper it would be more appropriate to use the word "sex". I also think a great deal could be added to this paper if the specimen type was at least described, and potentially analyzed by age - for example, how many were positive blood cultures, how many from stool, and how many urine? Was this different by age and sex or by region?

Minor Essential Revisions
2. Line 112 the study objective is to "describe", not "explain" the overall epidemiology of...
3. Line 223 This study defines" high risk age groups", not "high risk groups" per se which usually means other sorts of factors or chronic conditions

Major Compulsory Revisions -
4. I think that concluding that there is an increase in true incidence from 2007 to 2008-2009 is too strong a conclusion. Population based incidence rates need to be trended for much longer periods of time. Also, this is an organism that can frequently be associated with defined outbreaks, so this information should be obtained from Public Health as recognized outbreaks are investigated by local Public Health Units.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.