Reviewer's report

Title: Rifaximin for maintenance therapy in antibiotic-dependent pouchitis

Version: 2 Date: 24 March 2008

Reviewer: Darrell S Pardi

Reviewer's report:

The authors have satisfactorily addressed my comments. The only additional comment I have is in reference to the figure they have submitted in response to Reviewer #1. Therein, they suggest that secondary causes of pouch symptoms be excluded if a patient does not respond to a 4 week course of dual antibiotics (or after not responding to a total of 8 weeks of therapy). I think that is too long to let a patient go before evaluating for secondary causes, especially given the fact that most patients with pouchitis respond well to antibiotics. Thus, I would suggest that they move "Exclusion of secondary causes" up a few lines, before the "cipro + metronidazole...." line.

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I have previously performed consulting work for Salix, and am currently participating in a clinical trial using rifaximin for the treatment of C. difficile infection.