Reviewer's report

Title: Glutamine Therapy Reduces Endothelial Adhesion of Sickle Red Blood Cells to Human Umbilical Vein Endothelial Cells

Version: 4 Date: 9 May 2005

Reviewer: Gilda Barabino

Reviewer's report:

General

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

The authors have been responsive to previous criticisms, however, a concern remains regarding their choice of terminology to describe sickle RBC adhesion. While their current term, "adhesion count" is more accurate than their previous term, "adhesion rate," as used in the manuscript, it doesn't conform with convention and it is confusing at times. For example, "endothelial adhesion count of sickle RBC" would be better expressed as "sickle RBC adhesion to endothelium (or endothelial cells)."

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Accept after minor essential 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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.