Reviewer's report

**Title:** Microbicide excipients can greatly increase susceptibility to genital herpes transmission in the mouse

**Version:** 3  **Date:** 28 October 2010

**Reviewer:** Deborah Palliser

**Reviewer's report:**

The authors have revised the MS so that it reads well. However, both myself and the other reviewer asked for additional experiments which the authors argue are not necessary. On the one hand I agree that the findings are important and should be published. On the other I am somewhat wary of a study being based on one finding (in this case number of mice infected 3 days post-infection).

If the second reviewer and the editorial board are of the opinion that the MS is now acceptable for publication, I am willing to forgo the request for additional experiments. However, I would like some guidance on this matter.