Reviewer’s report

Title: The persisting burden of invasive pneumococcal disease in HIV patients

Version: 3 Date: 19 September 2011

Reviewer: Susanna Esposito

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The manuscript of Siemieniuk et al. evaluated IPD in HIV-infected populations in HAART era. However, the major limitation is represented by the fact that no information is available on the impact of PCV7 in HIV population. Without this information, the study does not add any new information on what is already known.

- Rewrite the study comparing what happens in pre-PCV7 era (2000-2002), immediately after PCV7 introduction (2002-2004) and when PCV7 coverage reached high values (2005-2010).
- More details on vaccination schedule used (ie, how many doses of PPV-23) are required.
- Discussion has to be re-written considering benefits of PCV7 and potential benefits of PCV13.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.