Reviewer’s report

Title: Derivation and validation of a simple clinical bedside score (ATLAS) for Clostridium difficile infection which predicts response to therapy

Version: 1 Date: 4 September 2012

Reviewer: Oliver Cornely

Reviewer’s report:

The authors present a score predicting response to therapy in CDAD. The authors developed and validated the score. This really fills a gap, since it addresses an unmet medical need.

The work is rigorous, complete, and clearly presented. Limitations are adequately discussed.

Funding source is given as Optimer Pharmaceuticals.

Minor essential revisions

Abstract:
Rephrase “in all possible ways” which is quite absolute.

Discussion:
Rephrase “The two largest CDI clinical trial databases in existence”, since there might be a larger one.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I have published with some of the authors of this paper recently, and I gave medical advice to Optimer Pharmaceuticals and Astellas Pharma; from the latter I received honoraria for presenting in satellite symposia and for scientific advice.