Reviewer’s report

Title: Lower ribavirin biodisponibility in patients with HIV-HCV coinfection in comparison with HCV monoinfected patients

Version: 1 Date: 22 January 2014

Reviewer: Andrea Calcagno

Reviewer’s report:

This article is interesting and may help understanding the differences in anti HCV outcome in HIV+ patients; the use of ribavirin in modern DAA-containing regimens enhances such findings. I do not know if such data are available but 2 or 4 weeks PK comparisions may be of high clinical value.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1) I would describe the HAARt regimens concomitantly administered (2 NRTIs + a 3rd drug describing the third drug, how many on abacavir?)

2) Possible further mechanism of interaction (Pgp induction, food interaction, etc must be discussed) 

3) Some other papers suggesting RBV cut offs in HIV+ patients (although not AUC) must be presented such as Peidoux AT 2011 and Aguilar JAC 2008)

Minor Essential Revisions

4) English language is fine though I would suggest to read it thoroughly. Use consistently verb tenses (were/are)

5) REF 20 and the sentence related on microbial translocation: although this is interesting there are not data on PK according to the degree of microbial translocation/ gut damage. Maybe this could be either better discussed or removed

6) Last sentence of the results section: single dose RBV cannot be affected by adherence! I would suggest to remove the sentence

Discretionary Revisions

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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

Declaration of competing interests:
I received speaker's honoraria and travel grants from Gileada, Abbvie, BMS, MSD, Viiv