Reviewer’s report

Title: Impact of maternal HIV-1 viremia on lymphocyte subsets among HIV-exposed uninfected infants: Protective mechanism or immunodeficiency?

Version: 3 Date: 16 April 2014

Reviewer: ann chahroudi

Reviewer’s report:

In the revised manuscript by Kakkar et al, the authors have addressed all of the initial comments and concerns expressed by the Reviewers to the extent that the requested data were available for inclusion. In addition, the authors have added and/or revised the figure and tables to help to clarify the study design and participants. Results from the prospective study currently in progress that is described in the cover letter should provide further insight into the presence or absence of specific immunologic abnormalities in HIV-exposed, uninfected infants.

Minor Revisions:
1. In Table 1, the authors should provide the total N for each column in the column headers.
2. In Figure 1, the authors should clarify what "under investigation" means for the 33 infants shown.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.