Reviewer’s report

Title: Therapeutic drug monitoring of nevirapine in saliva in Uganda using high performance liquid chromatography and a low cost thin-layer chromatography technique

Version: 2  
Date: 31 May 2014

Reviewer: Nils von Hentig

Reviewer’s report:

Well conducted substudy. However the Goal is quite unclear, was it a methods-validation study or a study about Nevirapine resistance and therapy failure?

Major comment:

The authors should describe the methods more broad and precise and focus on the lab methods and statistics.

Resistance data about single patients with virological failure and pretty high Nevirapine concentrations, at least n=15 >3.0mg/L (?) are redundant. The tables stand in contradiction to the text. Why is it that patients who failed had good NVP concentrations and the patients not failing had subtherapeutic Levels (n=12). And why are these compared to the rest?

Personally, I think, that perhaps adherence has not been evaluated properly. Instead of tables, I´d rather like to see regression figures of both methods saliva/blood.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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.