Reviewer’s report

Title: Development of real-time NASBA assays with molecular beacon detection to quantify mRNA coding for HHV-8 lytic and latent genes

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Reviewer: Dr Jaap M. Middeldorp

Level of interest: A paper of considerable general medical or scientific interest

Advice on publication: Accept after discretionary revisions

I have read the author's reply to my former comments and have studied the revised manuscript regarding the changes made.
The author's reply and manuscript adjustments to comments 1, 3-6 are acceptable. Author's reply to comment 2 is not completely accurate as the Baar et al. reference relates to HIV-RNA detection in plasma, which is a significantly different specimen compared to PBMC's. Plasma contains much less competing cq. interfering DNA/RNA molecules compared to PBMC's. However as this mainly is relevant for results in a clinical study and this represents -as stated by the author's- a methodological paper, I will not let this dispute interfere with publication.

Competing interests:
None declared.