Reviewer's report

Title: Persistence of lipoatrophy after a four-year long interruption of antiretroviral therapy for HIV1 infection: case report

Version: 1 Date: 7 June 2005

Reviewer: Brian Boyle

Reviewer's report:

General
An interesting, straightforward case report of persistent lipoatrophy which is entirely based upon clinical findings. This report is subject to all of the concerns surrounding case reports, most notably the risk of over-generalization. It would be good, if available, to include objective studies (e.g., CT scan or DEXA scan) or findings (e.g., fat measurements such as anthropometry, waist-hip ratio) to support conclusions and more information about the regression or progression of the metabolic conditions that may have accompanied the visceral fat gain and subcutaneous fat loss; however, from a clinician and patient perspective, which focuses more on the cosmetic issues associated with lipoatrophy, this may not be critical. Further, authors should verify that during the therapy interruption the patient was not on any other medications or treatments that could have affected either visceral or subcutaneous fat.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)
None

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)
Typos and grammatical errors need to be corrected. See General comments above.

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
None/See above

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

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

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

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests