Reviewer's report

Title: Effects of highly active antiretroviral therapy with Nelfinavir in vertically HIV-1 infected children: 3 years of follow-up

Version: 1 Date: 10 May 2006

Reviewer: Gene D Morse

Reviewer's report:

General

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached):
1. The authors have included patients ranging in age from 0.5 to 16.1 years. This should be discussed in the context of their findings.
2. The manuscript is written as if nelfinavir is still the treatment of choice as a PI. The text should be updated to be consistent with the discussion which does mention lopinavir/r data.
3. There are multiple text sections that require grammar/spelling checks. For example, the Background mentions “hidrocarbonate” metabolism and Table 1 describes HAART regimens including “addiction” of NNRTI or PI.
4. Table 1 is unclear with regard to adherence. It states >90%. What does this mean?
5. The manuscript really describes nelfinavir-based HAART because the patients were also receiving other antiretrovirals. The discussion should include these other antiretrovirals since it is likely they contributed to the change viral load which was the main outcome parameter along with CD4 cell count.
6. Figure was needs to be clarified for the reader. Similar symbols are used but the graphs and groups change.

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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)

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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

Statistical review: Yes

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