Reviewer's report

Title: Molecular evidence of Ureaplasma urealyticum and Ureaplasma parvum colonization in preterm infants during respiratory distress syndrome.

Version: 2 Date: 26 June 2006

Reviewer: Dimitris A Kafetzis

Reviewer's report:

General
"The research article under review deals with the molecular evidence of U. urealyticum and U. parvum colonization in preterm infants during respiratory distress syndrome, an issue which has not been adequately investigated until today. We believe that it would contribute significantly to the accumulated knowledge regarding this issue and it would be suitable for publication after some relatively minor changes. Specific comments follow:

1. The article should be corrected by a native English speaker since several spelling and grammar mistakes render the content often obscure for the reader.
2. Abstract: "Methods", The Mycoplasma Duo Test should be replaced by a phrase stating the principle of the methodology (immunoenzymatic, etc) rather than the name of the commercial kit used. The name of the kit may as well appear in the main body of the text (methods)
3. Abstract: "Results", "Sequencing analyses confirmed the specificity of these methods": Hasn't this been stated already in the "Methods" section of the Abstract?
4. It would be better to avoid -one sentence- paragraphs as eg "Background" section, 2nd paragraph, etc
5. There is some disproportion in the length of the individual sections of the article (Background, Patients and methods). This should be altered.
6. It would be nice if the authors could present a photo of an agarose gel depicting the positive samples along with suitable controls as an additional figure."

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

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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)