Reviewer's report

Title: Recall of intestinal helminthiasis by HIV-infected South Africans and misinterpretation of egg excretion in worm/HIV co-infection analysis: a questionnaire-based study

Version: 5 Date: 4 May 2006

Reviewer: Janette Bradley

Reviewer's report:

General
The revised paper now reads considerably better than the original version and some interesting points are made. My original concerns about the disconnection between the results of the study and the conclusion that helminth egg excretion may not be a valid measure of worm infection remain. The study is based on recall of the presence of helminths in HIV positive and negative individuals as assessed by questionnaire but the misinterpretation of egg excretion remains an interesting but untested hypothesis. I feel the study does merit publication but I think the title gives the false impression, that helminth egg excretion has been proven to be an unreliable as measure of infection status and should be changed.

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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)

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: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I have no competing interests