Reviewer's report

Title: More men than women make mucosal IgA antibodies to Human Papillomavirus type 16 (HPV-16) and HPV-18: a study of oral HPV and oral HPV antibodies in a normal healthy population.

Version: 3  Date: 29 March 2006

Reviewer: Reinhard Höpfl

Reviewer's report:

General
The inclusion of CIN data (Table 2) did improve the paper decisively. I still do not agree, that putative crossreactivity between HPV 13 and HPV 11 antibodies is not relevant for the paper. Contrarily, looking at the Table 1 this fact also confirms the speculation of the authors, that the oral HPV-antibody response did not reflect oral HPV infection (only 1 of 7 HPV-13 infected had HPV-11 antibodies) but in contrast indicate present or past genital exposure. However, there is no further reason not to accept the paper. There are still some writing and typing errors in the manuscript.

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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)