Reviewer’s report

Title: High Risk for Occupational Exposure to HIV and Utilization of Post-Exposure Prophylaxis in a Teaching Hospital in Pune, India

Version: 1 Date: 12 July 2008

Reviewer: Mitchell H Katz

Reviewer’s report:

This is an extremely important topic. Very little has been published on occupational exposures to HIV in resource poor areas. The paper also shows that initiating a post-exposure program decreases exposures.

Minor essential revisions

pg 5, first paragraph, last sentence needs comparative clause: HCW in India ....compared to ?

pg 8 there needs to be some rationale for why each hcw were assumed to work all year round--is the amount of vacation too trivial to subtract from the 12 month year or was it done because you want the reader to think of a person year as a year in the life of a hcw as opposed to a year of work.

in the discussion it would be worth a short acknowledgement that indinavir would not be currently the choice for a third drug for pep.

pg 9, given the higher rates among interns it might be worth defining that interns are in their first post medical school year, while residents are in years X to X.

discretionary revisions

pg 7 would cut clause about HBsAG testing being outsourced. this is not an important detail and the term is confusing with "source"

pg 7

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests