Reviewer’s report

Title: Association Between Amebic Liver Abscess and Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infection in Taiwanese subjects

Version: 1 Date: 27 December 2007

Reviewer: William Petri

Reviewer’s report:

This is an important report of the continuing problem with amebiasis in persons living with HIV/AIDS in Taiwan. What is remarkable is that the majority of patients with amebic liver abscess were HIV (+), leading to the authors recommendation that amebic liver abscess be a reason for an HIV test. The average CD4 T cell count was in the 200s in these patients, and besides a lower level of leukocytosis on presentation there were no clinical signs or symptoms that were unique to the presentation of amebic liver abscess in HIV infected individuals. A minor point that should be addressed is if there were any differences in clinical presentation or response to therapy in those patients with CD4 T cell counts above 200, vs those with a CD4 T cell count below 200.

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

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'