Reviewer's report

Title: Co-infection by human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1) subtype c and human t cell leukemia virus type 1 (HTLV-1): does immune activation lead to a faster progression to AIDS?

Version: 1 Date: 29 June 2009

Reviewer: C J Castro-Sansores

Reviewer's report:

1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined? Yes
2. Are the methods appropriate and well described? Yes
3. Are the data sound? Yes
4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition? Yes
5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data? Yes
6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated? Yes
7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished? Yes
8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found? Yes
9. Is the writing acceptable? Yes

- Major Compulsory Revisions Why subtype C for the HIV-1 was considered for all the patients, if they were not sequenced all (just 14 mono-infected and 14 co-infected).
- There are nothing of the figure 5-A and 5B.
- Minor Essential Revisions In relation to the serology for the HTLV, there were no seropositive patients for the HTLV-2?
- Discretionary Revisions In relation to the stool evaluation, the results of the parasite finding must be placed until the end of the paragraph.

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