Reviewer’s report

Title: Lower serum prohepcidin levels associated with lower iron and erythropoietin requirements in hemodialysis patients with chronic hepatitis C

Version: 2 Date: 2 April 2012

Reviewer: Vivekanand Jha

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The HCV positivity is 26% in their unit, and according to most guidelines, HCV testing should be done by NAT.

The response to points #3 and 6 are also weak.

The biology behind the opposite directions of the various inflammatory parameters (IL-6, TNF-a and CRP) between HCV +ve and -ve patients needs to be explained. What is the implication on hepcidin and iron metabolism?

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

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