Reviewer’s report

Title: Total protein, albumin and low-molecular-weight protein excretion in HIV-positive patients

Version: 2 Date: 20 March 2012

Reviewer: Samir Gupta

Reviewer’s report:

To the Authors: The investigators have conducted a large cross-sectional study investigating several renal tubular markers in HIV-infected patients, most of whom were receiving ART. The data are potentially useful and of interest. There are a few remaining concerns, however, that need to be addressed by the authors.

Major Compulsory Revisions
1) The authors understandably focus on TFV combinations in these analyses. But it would also be helpful to combine the TFV/NNRTI and TFV/PI groups to compare TFV vs. non-TFV more directly.
2) The authors might wish to highlight in the discussion the fact the albuminuria was a small component of total proteinuria in this cohort. This would be of interest to the general readership.

Minor Essential Revision
1) A minor issue is that an interquartile range is the distance between quartiles 1 and 3; the data are listed as (Q1, Q3), which is somewhat different.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

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