Reviewer's report

Title: DNA extraction from long-term stored urine

Version: 3 Date: 9 August 2013

Reviewer: William Oetting

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Major Compulsory Revisions

The abstract talks about urine from what appears to be several possible sources, filtered, dialyzed, frozen or dried, but in the results it appears that only freeze dried urine was analyzed. This should be stated correctly in the abstract.

This is also the case in the conclusion. Dialyzed, concentrated, frozen and dried urine; were all of these steps done for all samples tested. If so, this needs to be made clear. I would assume that few clinical trials treat urine samples this way. Can DNA be isolated from urine that was frozen at -80C without further processing?

For figure 2, what is being amplified? CTLA-4 uncut?

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:

I declare that I have no competing interests