Reviewer’s report

Title: Sex steroids do not affect shigatoxin cytotoxicity on human renal tubular or glomerular cells

Authors:
   Alisa K Hughes (alisa.highes@hsc.utah.edu)
   Douglas I Schmid (d_schmid@yahoo.com)
   Donald E Kohan (donald.kohan@hsc.utah.edu)

Version: 1 Date: 6 May 2002

Reviewer: Dr Tom Obrig

Level of interest: A paper whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Advice on publication: Accept after discretionary revisions

Compulsory Revisions:
1) Table 1-3: The data should be presented as percent survival rather than a percentage (of a percentage). This is important because it will be easier for the reader to directly relate the relative effect of Stx1 at concentrations shown despite the data shown in Fig 2.
2) Figure 1: State the time of exposure in the legend.
3) Fig. 2: Either include the data or state the results for 7 days of exposure.
4) Results: Include a statement about the Gb3 data.

Discretionary Revisions:
1) Because these are negative data, provide some indication that the steroids were indeed active (in any system).
2) Include a reference or two indicating the known effects of these steroids on the cell types employed, i.e. pubs. by HW Schnaper for endothelial cells

Competing interests:
None declared.