Reviewer’s report

Title: Imatinib Induced Severe Hypersensitivity : What is the optimal dose?

Version: 1 Date: 24 March 2010

Reviewer: Peter Reichardt

Reviewer’s report:

Major compulsory revisions:
Title should refer to the side effect discussed and not to optimal dose of imatinib.
Abstract is too long.
In background it is mentioned that no alternatives to imatinib exist in GIST. In this context the availability of sunitinib should be discussed.
Case presentation: how was overdosing or interaction with food components or alternative treatments ruled out? Why was blood level testing not done?
Conclusions: discussion of basic data on GIST can be omitted.
Substantial overlap with "background".
Page 8, last line: data on overall survival incorrect and out of place here.
Conclusions must be shortened and restricted to the key message of skin toxicity management.
Final page: speculations on future course of the disease are not useful.
Discussion of "optimal dose of imatinib" should be deleted.
Summary: the manuscript should be revised to a concise discussion of the management of severe skin toxicity.

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:
Speaker’s bureau with honoraria and advisory board for Novartis and Pfizer.