Reviewer's report

**Title:** Study protocol: safety and efficacy of propranolol in newborns with Retinopathy of Prematurity (PROP-ROP)

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 16 September 2010

**Reviewer:** Satish Kalhan

**Reviewer's report:**

Major:
1. Please write a plan for data analysis. What specific data will be obtained and how will it be analysed. A statistician's consultation will be helpful.
2. What is the maximum duration of exposure of the baby to the study drug. An upper limit should be incorporated.
3. What are the criteria to stop the participation of the infants in the study.
4. Exclusion criteria should include failure to thrive.
5. Propranolol in healthy adults has been shown to have significant effect on whole body protein metabolism, i.e increased protein turnover and oxidation. This can lead to excessive protein catabolism and failure to accrete protein and gain excessive fat. The authors should incorporate some measures to monitor for these potential side effects.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

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

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

'I declare that I have no competing interests'