Reviewer's report

Title: Renal abnormalities among HIV-infected, antiretroviral naive children, Harare, Zimbabwe: a cross-sectional study

Version: 2 Date: 1 August 2012

Reviewer: Russell Pierre

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions
None

Minor Essential Revisions
1. Figure 1 is unclear; one cannot interpret the meaning of the blue/red bars; additionally how are WAZ, HAZ, and WHZ represented in the figure?

2. Discussion:
Is routine urine testing conducted on HIV-infected children at the authors' institution? If not then the probable difference in age of presentation in the Chaparro study compared to current study could also be explained on the basis of routine urinary screening resulting in earlier detection

3. Minor editorial/grammatical errors
Page 12.......Duncan set (should be.....et) al
Page 14.......Staphylococcal aureus (preferably Staphylococcus....)
Page 14 – 15....1st paragraph: the sentence needs restructuring
Page 15, para 2.......This may suggests widespread (preferably suggest)
Conclusion.......2nd sentence needs restructuring

4. Table 3: this is clumsy and crowded, and actually three tables in one; authors should decide on creating one table and present the other data in the body of the text

5. Authors must clarify urine sampling methods; this has implications for the interpretation and diagnosis of UTIs based on growth pattern on microbiological media

5. Authors must review entire manuscript to address minor editorial/grammatical issues

Discretionary Revisions

Conclusions:
Authors should consider that routine urinary screening of HIV-infected children
be part of the follow-up protocol (at least yearly), given that early detection of 
HIVAN and commencement of appropriate antiretroviral therapy may ameliorate 
further deterioration of renal function

**Level of interest:** An article of limited interest

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

**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