Reviewer’s report

Title: Relative risk of renal disease among people living with HIV: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Version: 2 Date: 10 November 2011

Reviewer: Meredith Shiels

Reviewer’s report:

Major Compulsory Revisions:
Though the authors state in their response to my previous comments that the end points were all defined the same way, I am still concerned by the different names for the endpoints listed on pages 9 and 10. On these two pages alone, the author mentions the following endpoints: HIVAN, all-cause nephropathy, acute renal failure, chronic kidney disease, tubular dysfunction and renal impairment. If these endpoints are defined the same way in each study, but just have different names, then this should be mentioned up front and consistent terminology should be used throughout the results. However, if these endpoints are defined differently in each study, then these endpoints should not be combined in a pooled analysis. Either way, the text remains confusing and must be addressed.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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.