Reviewer's report

**Title:** Effect of esomeprazole versus placebo on pulmonary exacerbations in cystic fibrosis.

**Version:** 6  **Date:** 6 January 2014

**Reviewer:** James Yankaskas

**Reviewer's report:**

This manuscript describes a pilot clinical study to assess the effects of esomeprazole on pulmonary exacerbations in CF adults. The results suggest that esomeprazole may hasten and increase the frequency of CF pulmonary exacerbations. There are important implications for future studies.

- **Major Compulsory Revisions**
  - None.

- **Minor Essential Revisions.**
  1. Introduction, second paragraph, last line. Delete “despite the wide use of these agents.”
  2. Figure 3. Define the meaning of the symbols.

- **Discretionary Revisions**

Stylistic suggestions are intended to improve clarity and conciseness.

3. Abstract, Background. Change “…common in cystic fibrosis (CF) and is often regarding as contributing to lung disease.” to “…common in cystic fibrosis (CF) and may contribute to lung disease.”

4. INTRODUCTION, line 5. Change “monitor in adults with the disease.” to “monitor in CF adults.”

5. METHODS, paragraph 1, lines 4 to 6. Change “18 years or older and at least two respiratory exacerbations…” to “18 years or older and two to four respiratory exacerbations…” AND delete “but no more than 4…either of those years.”

6. METHODS, paragraph 2, lines 6 and 7. Change “distal GER if the percent of time with distal pH less than 4…” to “distal GER if the distal pH was less than 4…”

7. METHODS, paragraph 3, line 10. Delete “a total of”.

**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:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.