Reviewer's report

Title: Clearance of Technetium-99m-DTPA and HRCT Findings in the Evaluation of Patients with Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis

Version: 1 Date: 17 November 2005

Reviewer: Jim J Egan

Reviewer's report:

General: Interesting but reads negatively when the data suggests a positive correlation
There is a correlation which is weak but in a small group of patients is noteworthy.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached):
The definitions of mild, moderate, severe needs clarification. What is the source of these categories. How are they defined.

The HRCT scoring system is not well defined. I advise using Kazerooni et al. The references for the scoring used are heterogenous. I am unsure that TID is a specific concept derived from the references given.

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 Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

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 Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

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What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No