Reviewer’s report

Title: Twenty-four hours secretion pattern of serum estradiol in healthy prepubertal and pubertal boys as determined by a validated ultra-sensitive extraction RIA

Version: 4 Date: 22 June 2008

Reviewer: Offie Soldin

Reviewer’s report:

Major compulsory revisions: The last sentence in the abstract needs to be deleted. This is certainly not the first "approach" to normative data for estradiol "secretion" in boys.

I addition to some referenced peer-reviewed articles See:
2. Abraham GE, Odell WD, Swerdloff RS et al J Clin Endocrinol Metab 1972;34:312
3. Endocrinology expected values. Esoterix Endocrinology 2002

Although of interest, this study lacks in sample size (some of the groups n=3; all 5 groups n=44) and suffers from similar ailment as other immunoassays. Need to add these two limitations to your discussion.

The last sentence in the second paragraph of the discussion states that …"with up-to-date-knowledge, we are concerned that other previous studies on serum estradiol secretion in boys have shown falsly high concentrations [6, 25-30]."

This is incorrect. All of the above references report LOWER not higher concentrations than reported by the present study.

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

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