Reviewer's report

Title: Effect of Black Tea Extract on Herpes Simplex Virus-1 Infection of Cultured Cells

Version: 3 Date: 28 January 2013

Reviewer: Paul Schnitzler

Reviewer's report:

Cantatore et al. have performed antiviral studies with black tea extract against herpes simplex virus using a wide variety of different methods.

Major points for revision

1. Shorten manuscript by about 2/3! Too many details, redundancies, too many unnecessary figures.
2. Abstract: no results given under “Results”
3. Results: it seems strange, that the highest extract concentration is less toxic than lower concentrations; some experiments have been performed with or without this concentration.
4. Fig. 7B: no PCR product in column 5

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.