Reviewer's report

Title: Comparison of haematological parameters determined by the Sysmex KX-21N automated haematology analyzer and the manual counts

Version: 3 Date: 1 March 2010

Reviewer: Dan Jones

Reviewer's report:

The Authors have made an effort to respond to the concerns regarding limitations on the interpretation of manual differentials with only 100-cells counted.

Although manual and automated RBCs indices are positively correlated, the imprecision in measurement of PCV and Hgb by manual methodologies does (in their data) result in variations (best seen with MCHC) that may result in misclassification of values for diagnosis of anemias. I would recommend adding one more sentence to the 2nd paragraph of the Discussion to reinforce that.

"Automated" is spelled incorrectly on Figure 2A X-axis

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.