Reviewer's report

Title: Multiple micronutrient supplementation improves vitamin B12 and folate concentrations of HIV infected children in Uganda: a randomized controlled trial

Version: 1 Date: 21 February 2011

Reviewer: Siyazi Mda

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Minor Essential Revisions:

1. In the Methods section, under Participants (third paragraph, last sentence) the researchers state that there were no significant differences among those who had results for vitamin B12 and folate compared to those who did not have results. What differences are they referring to? Are these differences in age, gender, weight, height, receipt of HAART, CD4+ cell count?

2. Intervention: The amounts in the supplement were based on twice the recommended dietary allowance (RDA) for a 4 year old child. The subjects were children aged 1-5 years. What informed their decision to choose the age 4 years? How were the supplements administered to the children? Was the powder mixed with food, water or milk? How did they ensure that the child consumed the complete dose?

3. Randomisation and blinding:

At what stage was the treatment assignment revealed?

4. Laboratory measurements:

What were the coefficients of variation for the assays?

Discretionary revisions:

5. In the Methods section, under Participants (second sentence), the researchers indicate that they excluded children who had enrolled in other studies. Were there other micronutrient supplementation studies being conducted in the
same clinics at the time? If the reason for exclusion was receipt of folic acid and/or vitamin B12 this should be stated.

**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.