Reviewer's report

Title: The association between urinary kidney injury molecule 1 and urinary cadmium in elderly during long-term, low-dose cadmium exposure: a pilot study

Version: 3 Date: 14 June 2011

Reviewer: Antonio Mutti

Reviewer's report:

Despite the efforts to improve the manuscript, the main criticisms still remain in place.

I suggest to eliminate all parts dealing with alternative markers, which cannot be assessed due to poor analytical methods (failing to meet technical requirements for sound application). I would have no objections if the results were limited to the biomarker measured properly (KIM-1), thus concentrating on a pilot study suggesting the utility (or the very high sensitivity) of this biomarker to detect early kidney injury, notwithstanding the need to further clarify its meaning.

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

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.