Reviewer’s report

Title: Biomarkers of acute lung injury: worth their salt?

Version: 1 Date: 26 August 2011

Reviewer: Johan Groeneveld

Reviewer’s report:

General.
This is a review on biomarker role in ALI/ARDS, from a general rather than a specific perspective. The paper is interesting and reads well. The following can be offered as comments.

Minor.
Sometimes emotional terms are used as 'frustrating', which is not very scientific.
The figures are essentially the same and can be merged.
Can the authors give directions for research into the biomarkers to become useful in clinical practise either as disease or outcome prognosticators?
Any framework to be provided to rethink (what is to be predicted, how, when and why) and classify all this?

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’