Reviewer's report


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Reviewer: Saman Warnakulasuriya

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1. MAJOR: This is an update on mechanisms of carcinogenesis associated with HPV infection particularly focused on the cervical epithelium. How these apply to Head and neck have not been clarified. How does HPV infect the Head and Neck (oral cavity and oropharynx)? There are some speculations but the review should consider discussing these aspects. Are there population differences in HPV infection that reflect vast geographical differences in oral cavity/oropharyngeal cancers. Role of HPV in young people should be discussed with evidence.

2. MINOR: Some aspects could be illustrated by charts / line diagrams. Do methods of detection vary from organ to organ, and how does serology detection infer site of affliction?

3. Discretionary: Methods of HPV detection and rates of infections should be listed

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.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests’