Reviewer's report

Title: Human papillomavirus-mediated carcinogenesis and HPV-associated oral and oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma. Part II: Human papillomavirus associated oral and oropharyngeal squamous cell carcinoma

Version: 1 Date: 8 March 2010

Reviewer: Gudrun C Rieck

Reviewer's report:

Does the paper address an important or timely issue? - This manuscript reviews the occurrence of Human papillomavirus (HPV) in oral and oro-pharyngeal cancer. It describes critically the problems of laboratory testing and the consequent interpretation of the published data. The article summaries the problems in an easy readable fashion but there seem no new information available.

Is it well reasoned? - The data has been known but in the context of HPV vaccines for cervical cancer it is reasonable to demonstrate the relationship of HPV with other malignancies.

Is it relatively balanced? - The authors describe laboratory techniques to proof HPV related carcinogenesis and then describe the epidemiological data. It is a well balanced review although short of references regarding the original HPV research papers.

Is the standard of Writing acceptable? - Yes

Minor essential revisions are needed

Spelling of “role”

I would suggest to adept the manuscript after minor essential revisions

Level of interest - This is an article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interest although it does not present any new conclusions.

Quality of written English - Acceptable

Statistical review - Not applicable

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 have received financial support from Merk (Sanofi-Pasteur) for my presentations on HPV in the context of cervical cancer prevention.