Reviewer’s report

Title: A review of bronchiolitis obliterans syndrome and therapeutic strategies

Version: 1 Date: 25 April 2011

Reviewer: Stephen Kirkby

Reviewer’s report:

Major Compulsory Revisions:
None

Minor Essential Revisions:
Minor grammatical errors

Discretionary Revisions:
1. A brief comparison of BOS to the clinical features, pathogenesis, and pathologic findings of acute cellular rejection may be helpful.

2. In the diagnosis section, a few comments on typical radiological findings of BOS (air trapping, bronchiectasis, etc.) would help clarify some of the later discussion on management strategies.

3. A pathology slide showing typical findings of obliterative bronchiolitis would be useful to clarify the written description.

4. In the pathogenesis section, a limited discussion of the potential role of community-acquired respiratory viruses (such as RSV, influenza, parainfluenza, etc) and antibody-mediated rejection in BOS should be considered.

5. In the Therapies for BOS section, a brief description of the mechanism of action for azithromycin (anti-inflammatory effects) may help clarify this section.

6. In the Management Strategies in BOS section, the author should consider emphasizing not only early identification and re-transplantation, but also discuss the role of prevention through aggressive treatment and management of conditions that may contribute to the pathogenesis of BOS. For example, the management of GERD, primary graft dysfunction, and prevention of infections, etc. may all warrant discussion.

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.