Reviewer's report

Title: Dideoxynucleoside HIV reverse transcriptase inhibitors and drug-related hepatotoxicity: a case report.

Version: 2 Date: 13 February 2007

Reviewer: Margaret Eng

I am familiar with the literature and believe that this case meets one of the 7 criteria for evaluation in the journal: Findings that shed new light on the possible pathogenesis of a disease or an adverse effect

Has the case been reported coherently?: Yes

Is the case report authentic?: Yes

Is this case worth reporting?: Yes

Is the case report persuasive?: No

Does the case report have explanatory value?: Yes

Does the case report have diagnostic value?: Yes

Will the case report make a difference to clinical practice?: Yes

Comments to authors:

General

I have several questions:
1. Was there any evidence of hepatic steatosis on the liver biopsy?
2. Though liver function tests improved post change of ART, the main changes were the discontinuation of stavudine and the boosted protease inhibitor. It may be that the addition of low dose ritonovir may have increased the liver function tests (though it is usually dose dependant)
3. Only one measurement for lactic acidosis was done to definitely rule out lactic acidosis. Was there any anion gap?

What next?: Accept after minor revisions

Quality of written English: Acceptable