Reviewer’s report

Title: A randomized, placebo-controlled trial to determine the course of aminotransferase elevation during prolonged acetaminophen administration

Version: 2 Date: 15 April 2014

Reviewer: Vikhyat Bebarta

Reviewer’s report:

This is a well-written, well-conducted and important paper for acetaminophen and drug toxicity.

Major compulsory revisions - none

Minor essential revisions
- Table 1 and Table 2 were not available for review on the manuscript I reviewed
- State how the pts were recruited
- Cite or explain why an APAP level > 40 was used as a trigger level to act on
- Cite or explain why the alcohol definition of 3 drinks daily or 3 or more drinks in a day was used as exclusion criteria
- State which adverse events were recorded
- State if new symptoms (nausea, vomiting, abdom pain) were recorded in the patients who had elevation ALT. It would be important to know that although the pts had a rise in ALT, they had no symptoms and thus the abnormalities are subclinical (or nonclinical) lab findings (if no symptoms occurred).

Discretionary revisions
- Consider the final paragraph starting with, "Other medications that cause..." to just before the limitations paragraph (starting with, "Our study population was limited....")

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest 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:

none