Reviewer's report

Title: Evaluation of using composite HPV genotyping assay results to monitor human papillomavirus infection burden through simulations

Version: 4 Date: 17 February 2015

Reviewer: Xianhong Xie

Reviewer's report:

The questions and concerns were addressed sufficiently, and the manuscript is significantly improved after the revision.

Discretionary Revisions

I have only one minor technical comment: the composite sensitivity and specificity depend on the individual type sensitivities and specificities in a complex way. Under the multiple HPV types setting and assuming the HPV types are independent, the composite specificity is the product of the individual specificities (hence the composite specificity is smaller than the individual specificities), but the composite sensitivity does not have such simple relationship with the individual sensitivities even under this simplified setting.

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 declare that I have no competing interests.