Reviewer’s report

Title: Prevalence of naturally occurring NS5A resistance-associated substitutions in patients infected with hepatitis C virus subtype 1a, 1b, and 3a, co-infected or not with HIV in Brazil

Version: 0 Date: 09 Jun 2017

Reviewer: Ramesh Paranjape

Reviewer's report:

This manuscript represents the data on the prevalence of drug resistance associated variants in HCV infection in context with directly acting antivirals (DAA) against HCV in Brazil. RAVs have been studied both in HCV mono-infected DAA naive individuals as well as HCV and HIV co-infected persons. As such there is no novelty in the manuscript; however it provides Brazil specific data that is currently scanty. Specific comments: 1. While the authors have studied RAVs in HCV mono-infected and HIV-HCV co-infected persons, they have not discussed on the profiles of DAVs in two groups and implications. 2. The methods used are appropriate. 3. Line 174-175. Sentence "RAV were ———— sequences" is redundant and needs to be deleted. 4. Line 288 Sentence once "N5Sa ————origin" does not make any sense and needs to be rephrased. 5. Table 1 may show the substitutions in HCV mono-infected and HIV-HCV co-infected persons separately. 6. The authors need to clearly mention that the subjects were naive to DAA as well as Conventional treatment. If it is otherwise it needs to be clearly spelt out. 7. It is clear that authors do not have English as first language. It will be helpful to carry out grammar review of the manuscript. 7. The authors may discuss in introduction present HCV treatment practices and guidelines if any in Brazil.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.
Not relevant to this manuscript

**Quality of written English**

Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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