

January 22, 2008

Dear Dr Jameson,

Please add the following comments to my earlier critique of the draft background report on aristolochic acid exposures:

p17, line 6 --add Grollman et al, PNAS (2007) to the several references cited.

p36, line 10 – The word “possible” should be replaced by “demonstrated”. The reference is Grollman et al (2007)

p50 – I suggest citing here the high prevalence of UUC in transplanted EN patients (Basic-Jukic et al (2006 and Zivcic et al (2007)

p62 line 22 – end stage renal “disease” should read end stage renal “failure”

p 63, line 18-19 – I suggest mentioning here that Grollman et al (2007) had an unexposed control group for their studies of ESRD and for UUC

p 64, line 14-16 – Patients with BEN have ingested aristolochic acid in their diet, not as a botanical product.

p92, line 22 -- delete one “been”

p115, line 15 – It is very important to point out that in this paper, no epidemiological, clinical or pathological data are provided on patients from Croatia. It is therefore, not clear how the critical diagnosis of EN was made in these patients.

Thank you for your attention

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