

## **Reviewer's report**

**Title:** In vivo tissue uptake of intravenously injected water soluble all-trans beta-carotene used as a food colorant

**Version:** 1 **Date:** 9 June 2009

**Reviewer:** Venket Venketeshwer Rao

### **Reviewer's report:**

1. Please provide a rationale as to why the water soluble beta carotene was not administered orally when you state that dietary modality and levels are the ones that provide beneficial effects and not pharmaceutical levles and injectables. The explanation given in the manuscript is not convincing.
2. Please discuss your results in pharmacokinetic terms, explaining the study state levels of the beta carotene in the serum and tissues. Also explain why when the serum levels are coming down, the levels from most of the tissues except the testicles are also coming down. What is happening to the beta carotene other than being metabolised for which you have no evidence.
3. Did the HPLC show the presence of any metabolites of the beta carotene adminstered
4. Please edit your text more carefully

**Level of interest:** An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

**Quality of written English:** Needs some language corrections before being published

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

### **Declaration of competing interests:**

'I declare that I have no competing interests'