Reviewer’s report

Title: Distribution of enteric glia and GDNF during gut inflammation

Version: 1 Date: 2 November 2010

Reviewer: Robert Ehehalt

Reviewer’s report:

Dear Editor,

The manuscript "Distribution of enteric glia and GDNF during gut inflammation" is quite interesting. The authors have used human material and could show differences in different inflammatory disease of the gut. This makes their investigations in general worth for publication.

However, I suggest the following revisions:

1. Discretionary Revisions:
   a. Figure 1 need a better solution for review
   b. Where biopsies taken from inflamed and non-inflamed areas of the same patients? If yes, it would be quite interesting how the intraindividual variation would be. I could imagine that some patients respond stronger than others.

2. Minor Essential Revisions:
   a. Discussion: What does the authors mean with adequate and inadequate secretion? Because there is no correlation to the amount of inflammation I would suggest being more neutral in the statement.
   b. For the semi-quantitative analyses it would be helpful also to show exemplarily a Western-blot to estimate how solid the quantification can be.
   c. How many biosies were taken per patient?

3. Major revisions:
   a. The picture quality of figure 1 is to low to make an adjustment. Please provide figures with a better solution.

Level of interest: An article of importance 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:

'I declare that I have no competing interests'