Reviewer's report

**Title:** Longitudinal fluctuations in PD1 and PD-L1 expression in association with changes in anti-viral immune response in chronic hepatitis B

**Version:** 3  **Date:** 10 June 2012

**Reviewer:** Christoph Neumann-Haefelin

**Reviewer's report:**

Major compulsory revisions:
The authors addressed my previous major comments 2+3 satisfactorily, however, comment 1 was not addressed adequately. I still doubt that figure 1 shows any pentamer-positive response. A true positive pentamer response is displayed in Fig. 3B. A suggested in the previous comments, the authors really need to display a) background staining without pentamer and b) pentamer control stainings from healthy controls.

**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.