Reviewer's report

Title: Elevated circulating soluble interleukin-2 receptor in patients with chronic liver diseases is associated with non-classical monocytes

Version: 1 Date: 19 March 2012

Reviewer: Jaap Kwekkeboom

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Major Compulsory Revisions:

1. The authors should include a statistical comparison of the numbers of monocytes, classical monocytes, pro-inflammatory monocytes between patients and healthy controls, preferably in an additional figure. In the current version the numbers are mentioned in Table 1, but no statistics is provided.
2. The authors should explain why they focused on sIL2R, while a large number of cytokines and chemokines seem also to be elevated in CLD-patients according to Table 2. Are differences in these parameters smaller between CLD-patients and healthy subjects, or between cirrhotic and non-cirrhotic patients?

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.