Reviewer's report

Title: Transcript levels of different cytokines and chemokines correlate with clinical and endoscopic activity in ulcerative colitis

Version: 1 Date: 1 February 2008

Reviewer: Takafumi Ando

Reviewer's report:

They made it clear that low clinical and endoscopic activity was accompanied by low cytokine levels whereas high CAI and EAI were associated with high cytokine levels. From their data they concluded that real-time PCR quantification of IL-8, IP10, MRP14 and MIP2 in colonic biopsies is a simple and valid method for grading inflammation of intestinal mucosa in UC. IL-8, IP10, MRP14 and MIP2 might be used as biomarkers and thus as an objective tool especially in clinical trials to evaluate anti-inflammatory and immunomodulatory regimens. However, the simplest evaluation is CAI, and it does not seem that their method is advantageous in that we exceed it in the method how their trouble and money suffer from.

What next?: Reject because scientifically unsound

Level of interest: An article of insufficient interest to warrant publication in a scientific/medical journal

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

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.