Reviewer’s report

Title: IP-10 response to RD1 antigens might be a useful biomarker for monitoring tuberculosis therapy

Version: 2 Date: 3 March 2011

Reviewer: Morten Ruhwald

Reviewer’s report:

The paper has been revised according to reviewer’s comments and has improved significantly. A minor revision of inconsistencies in terminology would improve readability.

Discretionary comments.

Small letters after semicolons

Abstract results. “unsstimulated 1-day plasma” should read plasma of unstimulated 1-day whole blood culture or similar.

Minor inconsistencies in terminology makes the paper unnecessarily difficult to access. Consistent wording would improve the readability.

p5l5 and p5l10 and elsewhere. “NIL”, “Nil” and “unstimulated “are used interchangeably

P5l11 “QFT-IT antigens” defines the term but p7l4 used RD1 antigen-specific and p11l3 “QFT-IT” see also figure 2

“Blood” and “whole blood”

p11l16 “median” is missing

p12l14 the non-parametric test does not compare medians, suggest to delete.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I am registered as inventor on patents disclosing IP-10 as a biomarker for TB infection.