Reviewer's report

Title: Inducible nitric oxide synthase (iNOS) is expressed in Dengue-infected patients during acute phase and monocytes infected in vitro

Version: 2 Date: 21 April 2005

Reviewer: ichiro kurane

Reviewer's report:

General

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

This is the revised manuscript.
1) In Figure 3, the percent dengue Ag-positive cells in monocytes from non-dengue population is 5-10%. This reviewer still has to think that the staining technique has not been well established.
2) This reviewer also believes that dengue Ag-positive cells in PBMCs or monocyte populations should be presented under a fluorescent microscope. The author may not have frozen PBMC, but there are other dengue patients.
3) After 3 day culture, cell viability was about 40% (author's reply). It is not appropriate to draw a conclusion using cell populations with such low viability.
4) If dengue-Ag positive populations are purified and treated with NO, dengue Ag will not be detected? Does NO protect uninfected cells from dengue infection?
5) In figure 8, percent dengue Ag positive cell is 5%. On the other hand, in figure 9, it is 50%. How is this discrepancy explained?

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

What next?: Reject because scientifically unsound

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.