Reviewer's report

Title: Soluble egg antigen of Schistosoma heamatobium induces HCV replication in PBMC’s from patients with chronic HCV infection.

Version: 2 Date: 26 October 2005

Reviewer: Sanaa Kamal

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Comments:

El-Awady et al. have made major revisions particularly in the methods and discussion sections. The work is improved, however, some points still require clarification, and need to be carefully addressed.

1. Clear rationale should be presented to explain why S. haematobium derived SEA was used instead of S. mansoni derived SEA. The authors mention that they have previously used haematobium derived SEA in urinary bladder cancer studies and state that the differences between both antigens are minimal. Here the setting is different therefore this point should be further discussed in the context of previous literature.

2. Figure 2 needs to be improved and the S.D. should be shown in the figure.

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests'