Author's response to reviews

Title: Innate immunity in ocular Chlamydia trachomatis infection: contribution of IL8 and CSF2 gene variants to risk of trachomatous scarring in Gambians

Authors:

Angels Natividad (angels.natividad@inserm.fr)
Jeremy Hull (jhull@molbiol.ox.ac.uk)
Luoni Gaia (gaia@well.ox.ac.uk)
Martin Holland (m holland@mrc.gm)
Kirk Rockett (Kirk.Rockett@well.ox.ac.uk)
Hassan Joof (hmjoof@yahoo.co.uk)
Matthew Burton (matthew.burton@lshtm.ac.uk)
David Mabey (david.mabey@lshtm.ac.uk)
Dominic Kwiatkowski (dominic@well.ox.ac.uk)
Robin Bailey (robin.bailey@lshtm.ac.uk)

Version: 2 Date: 8 April 2009

Author's response to reviews: see over
We would like to invite you to consider the attached manuscript “Innate immunity in ocular Chlamydia trachomatis infection: contribution of IL8 and CSF2 gene variants to risk of trachomatous scarring in Gambians” for publication in BMC Medical Genetics as an original article.

We believe the readers BMC Medical Genetics will be interested in the findings of this association study implicating genes of the innate immune response to Chlamydia infection in the pathogenesis of severe sequelae of infection in humans, and the insight it provides into the pathogenesis of this important public health problem. This study also demonstrates the importance of taking into account epistatic effects in the interpretation of complex statistical risk effects of association studies of complex diseases.

We declare no competing interests.

Yours sincerely

Dr Angels Natividad-Sancho
Dr Robin Bailey