Reviewer's report

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

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Reviewer: Ralph Levinson

Reviewer's report:

What do the authors feel the significance of trichiasis in addition to scarring is of interest in this context? Are additional pathophysiologic mechanisms implied? I wouldn't think so.

Why were there two phases? Related to that, why the epidemiologic and clinical differences (different ethnic mix and the much lower prevalence of trichiasis (so maybe I am wrong and trichiasis has separate implications from scarring, but I don't see that reflected in the genetic analyses.)

The differences in IL8-251 between age groups is interesting. Might there be other confounding factors (as a case control study it seems differences in treatment over time should be adjusted for, for example) or are there other implications of this? difference?

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I have no competing interests