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

Version: 2 Date: 14 August 2009

Reviewer: Kyle Ramsey

Reviewer's report:

This is a very interesting report of findings related to genetic susceptibility to adverse outcomes of infection with the ocular pathogen, Chlamydia trachomatis. The authors report for the first time, that I am aware of, of the epistatic effects of polymorphisms in specific host response genes related to susceptibility to adverse chlamydial infection. The interaction between factors related to innate immunity is particularly fascinating in that this is a novel and evolving phenomenon in animal models and now is being explored by the authors in human infections. This is a completely unexplored field of study. There will be significant interest in this topic amongst chlamydial researchers. It is highly likely that this will also garner much interest from researchers outside of the chlamydia research community and enhance the readership of this journal.

Level of interest: An exceptional article

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.

Kyle Ramsey