Reviewer's report

Title: Clinical, Radiographic Characteristics and Immunomodulating Changes in Neuromyelitis Optica with Extensive Brain Lesions

Version: 3 Date: 3 April 2013

Reviewer: Jun-ichi Kira

Reviewer's report:

Comments to the authors:
I still have the following concerns.

1. According to the revised definition of PRES-like lesions, and because the authors defined PRES-like lesions as those resolved within four weeks while tumefactive lesions were not, all subjects should have undertaken a follow-up MRI four weeks after the initial MRI scans. Did the authors really perform follow-up MRI scans for all patients with PRES-like lesions or tumefactive lesions? The authors did not state any timing for follow-up MRI scans in the text. The authors should clearly mention this point.

2. As I mentioned previously, the authors should compare the MRI features of ADEM without concurrent NMO with those of the ADEM-like lesions observed in NMO patients in this study, which were observed as diffuse white matter lesions and showed chronic expansion. This differs considerably from the acute monophasic periventricular non-confluent demyelinating lesions normally observed with ADEM. At least some discussion on this issue is necessary.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:
I have no competing interest.