Reviewer's report

Title: Microarray analysis identifies a set of CXCR3 and CCR2 ligand chemokines as early IFNB-responsive genes in peripheral blood lymphocytes: an implication for IFNB-related adverse effects in multiple sclerosis

Version: 1  Date: 7 April 2006

Reviewer: oliver wengert

Reviewer's report:

General

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

1. since GAPDH can sometimes be upregulated after in vitro stimulation with IFNbeta we suggest you to add a sentence to your publication confirming that upregulation has not occurred in your experiments and that GAPDH therefore can serve as a reliable housekeeping gene in your experimental setup

2. please give the amount of IFNbeta used for in vitro stimulation not only in ng/ml but as well in Units per ml in order to facilitate comparison to other in vitro stimulation experiments

3. please add the legend to your figures the information whether data is shown as mean plus/minus std.error or median plus/minus CI and also indicate more clearly in the legend to figures whether data (as shown in a single bar) are derived from triplicate measurements of the same sample or are derived from different samples from different donors

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

1. the first paragraph on page 4 can be omitted/rewritten, because not relevant to the specific topic addressed in this paper

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