Reviewer's report

Title: Inflammatory phenotypes underlying long-term uncontrolled childhood asthma: Rationale and design of the PACMAN2 study

Version: 1  Date: 14 January 2013

Reviewer: jocelyne just

Reviewer's report:

This article describes, “the protocol Inflammatory phenotypes Underlying long-term uncontrolled childhood asthma” whose objective is to determine the causes of uncontrolled childhood asthma, taking into account the data of observance.

Therefore, mechanistic explanations will be explored taking into account the type of inflammation related or not to eosinophils, the possible corticoresistance, including genetic origin of corticoresistance.

This protocol is also well scientifically designed concerning 1/ the standardized questionnaires 2/ and scores recognized to well assess asthma control (taking even into account the effect of seasonality on asthma control), 3/ and the impact of asthma and allergic co-morbidities on quality of life.

Major Compulsory Revisions

A major criticism is the lack of consideration of environmental allergen or irritant (such as tobacco exposure) for explanation of uncontrolled asthma

The authors should respond to this major criticism for the acceptation of this article.

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

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

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' below.