Reviewer's report

Title: Unemployment and ill health: a connection through inflammation?

Version: 2 Date: 29 September 2009

Reviewer: Kaki M. York

Reviewer's report:

As previously described this paper reports a study investigating the relationship between unemployment and the inflammatory markers C-reactive protein and Interleukin-6. Unemployment is a significant stressor for most individuals and examination of the relationship between this phenomena and inflammatory processes is particularly timely in light of the current economic climate. To the best of my knowledge this only the second such study in the literature and for reasons previously sited, represents a significant incremental increase in our understanding of the psychoimmunology of unemployment stress.

I believe that the authors have adequately addressed all required items and that the paper has been significantly strengthened by their revisions. I also believe that the revisions significantly improved the readability of this paper and will facilitate increased understanding of the findings for our readers.

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

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.