Reviewer's report

Title: A phase 1 study evaluating the pharmacokinetics, safety and tolerability of repeat dosing with a human IL-13 antibody (CAT-354) in subjects with asthma

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Reviewer: Neil C Thomson

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Minor essential revisions

There is considerable interest in the role of IL-13 in the pathogenesis of asthma and whether blocking the function of IL-13 will be of clinical benefit in the treatment of asthma. The manuscript reports on the results of a phase 1 study of repeated dosing with human IL-13 antibody (CAT-354) in asthma. The study is clearly described, well performed and the methods used appropriate. A minor criticism is that a reduced number of subjects (n=3) received the highest dose (10.g/Kg). The findings are important for designing further studies to assess efficacy in asthma.

I believe that CAT-354 is being developed as a subcutaneous injection rather than intravenous infusion for the treatment of asthma. If so, data on the safety profile of subcutaneously administered CAT-354 would be of considerable interest and if the authors have this data then I suggest that it be included in the manuscript. If the data is not available then the authors should comment in the discussion on the likely formulation (SC or IV) of CAT-354 that will be used in future clinical studies.

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'