Reviewer's report

Title: Persistent Chlamydia Pneumoniae serology is related to decline in lung function in women but not in men

Version: 2 Date: 26 May 2010

Reviewer: Masafumi Zaitsu

Reviewer's report:

The authors have presented work regarding the role of Chlamydia Pneumoniae in change of lung function over time in men and women. This is a good report to the role of Chlamydia Pneumoniae in change of lung function over time in men and women.

The work is original and methodology is sound good. The discussion and conclusion are supported by the data.

I consider that it contains interesting information. And I had some questions as below.

Comments and questions to author

1. Does positive IgG titer really mean the “persistent” Chlamydophilia pneumoniae infection? The author should explain how long the IgG titer remains to be positive after the Chlamydophilia pneumoniae infection in the kit used. And The authors should explain whether Cp IgG elevation is definitive and enough for the diagnostic of persistent Cp infection.

2. Authors show that persistent Chlamydophilia pneumoniae infections is related to increased decline in lung function in women but not in men. This effect was significantly found in smoking women. The authors should explain and/or discuss more about the mechanisms in the discussion section.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.