Reviewer's report

Title: Serum interleukin-5 levels are elevated in mild and moderate persistent asthma irrespective of regular inhaled glucocorticoid therapy.

Version: 1 Date: 11 December 2003

Reviewer: renbin B tang

Reviewer's report:

General
This paper reports on a study of IL-5 in sera of asthma, this study confirms previous reports but adds nothing new.

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)
It is worthwhile for the authors to mention that pulmonary function test data to establish the diagnosis and severity of asthma would have been desirable but was not available details in these cohorts of patients.
It is also compared the data between atopic and nonatopic asthma separated, It is better mention how to defined the atopic or non-atopic.

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

data on figure 2 and 3 should be separate count on the atopic or non atopic cases.

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

What next?: Accept after discretionary revisions

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes

Declaration of competing interests:
none below