Reviewer's report

Title: Pre-dementia in Alzheimer's disease

Version: 1 Date: 9 August 2010

Reviewer: Paul Aisen

Reviewer's report:

This is a well-written and interesting review of an important area in clinical neuroscience, of substantial interest to general readers.

* Major Compulsory Revisions: None.

* Minor Essential Revisions: In the second sentence of the introduction, the authors state that current AD treatments prolong life expectancy. This is a controversial statement to say the least, and no supporting data or references are cited. It should be removed.

* Discretionary Revisions

This is a complex field, well-summarized in this article. Some additional clarification of terminology may be useful, eg presymptomatic AD v. pre-clinical AD v. prodromal AD. It may also be worthwhile to consider the recent discussions of new diagnostic criteria for preclinical AD, MCI and AD.

Which journal?: Appropriate or potentially appropriate for BMC Medicine: an exceptionally interesting article

What next?: Accept for publication in BMC Medicine after minor essential revisions

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

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

Declaration of competing interests:

I do not believe that I have any competing interests with regard to this paper, but nonetheless wish to disclose the following details:

I serve on a scientific advisory board for NeuroPhage; serve as a consultant to Elan Corporation, Wyeth, Eisai Inc., Schering-Plough Corp., Bristol-Myers Squibb, Eli Lilly and Company, NeuroPhage, Merck & Co., Roche, Amgen, Genentech, Inc., Abbott, Pfizer Inc, Novartis, Bayer, Astellas, Dainippon,
Biomarin, Solvay, Otsuka, Daiichi, AstraZeneca, Janssen and Medivation, Inc.; receive research support from Pfizer Inc, and Baxter International Inc., and the NIH [NIA U01-AG10483 (PI), NIA U01-AG024904 (Coordinating Center Director), NIA R01-AG030048 (PI), and R01-AG16381 (Co-I)]; and have received stock options from Medivation, Inc. and NeuroPhage.