Reviewer's report

Title: Th17-related cytokines: new players in the control of chronic intestinal inflammation

Version: 1 Date: 31 August 2011

Reviewer: Atsushi Kitani

Reviewer's report:

This review provides cutting-edge information for Th17 disease therapeutic approach specifically for human inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD) with related mouse models. The content spans broad aspects of Th17 cytokines and counteracting Th1 mechanism with profound accumulation of related studies including their own data. This review will attracts not only mucosal immunologists but also many inflammation researchers and gastroenterologists.

Major comments
On page 5, please give some comments about the cell types that produce anti-inflammatory IL-17A and the difference from pathogenic inflammatory Th17 in diseases, if there is.

Minor comments
1) On page 5, the ref 36 paper title gives only IL-17F and confusing, it is better to change the sentence of IL-17A-knockout mice are more susceptible…. to IL-17F deficiency resulted in reduced colitis caused by dextran sulfate sodium, whereas IL-17A knockout mice developed more severe disease. This part further detail is described on page 6.

2) On page 5 claudins in epithelial cells and to stimulate mucin production is not described in refs 13 and 14 papers. Please give adequate references of papers.

3) On page 8 line 6 such 6-Formylindolo… should be such as 6-Formylindolo

4) On page 9, after IL-26, please give ref 22, 24.

That's all.

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’