Reviewer’s report

Title: Impairment of circulating endothelial progenitors in Down syndrome

Version: 1 Date: 15 April 2010

Reviewer: Wanqing Liu

Reviewer’s report:

The manuscript provided evidence for a reduced angiogenesis and immune response in Down syndrome individuals. The study is well designed and written. While there are no major concerns, several suggestions are listed below:

1. On page 14, "about 14% of total 386 genes annotated on chromosome 21 (NCBI RefSeq 36.3), were significantly deregulated in DS progenitors", it is not clear that whether 386 genes are the total number of genes located on Chr 21, or they are the Chr 21 genes that are expressed in EPCs.

2. The study lacks an analysis of the gene copy number (chr21 genes) in the DS patients. Were upregulations of the Chr 21 genes in EPCs all caused by increased copy number?

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.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests