Reviewer's report

Title: Anti-TNF Inhibits The Airways Neutrophilic Inflammation Induced By Inhaled Endotoxin in Human.

Version: 3 Date: 26 April 2014

Reviewer: Dave Singh

Reviewer's report:

This is a very well conducted study, with novel results. There are some clarifications and improvements needed before publication. Despite my numerous comments below, the scientific impact of these results for therapy of neutrophilic airway disease is high

Major compulsory revisions

1) At the end of the introduction, the reason why the study was performed should be stated (currently, it is simply stated what the design of the study was)

2) The results presentation needs improvement. Here is a list of issues
   a) there is excessive quoting of numerical data in the text, these data are in the figures. if needed, they can go in an supplement
   b) correlation is inappropriate - kappa coefficient should be used, also, it is not sufficient to state that "Bland Altman confirmed the results". The mean difference and limits of agreement should be stated (and graph shown in supplement or main paper)
   c) Fig 2 is unclear. There should be a key to the columns. Is this the screening challenge or the challenge in the placebo arm after treatment ?
   d) It is not clear what figs 5 c and d are ? they are not explicity explained in the text

Minor essential revisions

1) the abstract should delete mention of NFkB, as this was no specifically investigated

2) the grammar and English needs editing generally

3) Statistics - it should be stated what pairwise tests were done post-ANOVA

4) Sputum has macrophages, not monocytes

5) The introduction states that TNF levels are raised in COPD airways. there are other studies that fail to show a difference. More balance should be brought to this section

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

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 DECLARE THAT I HAVE NO COMPETING INTERESTS