Reviewer's report

Title: Immune markers characteristic for asymptomatically infected and diseased Entamoeba histolytica individuals and their relation to sex

Version: 2 Date: 3 September 2014

Reviewer: Carol Gilchrist

Reviewer's report:

The great strength of this paper is a well characterized study cohort which has permitted the identification, sample collection and hence characterization of the immune response occurring in both male and female individuals experiencing both AC and ALA and also those asymptomatically colonized with E. dispar. This allows an in-depth analysis of immune response to the ameba pathogen in the human host in response to ALA insult or AC that has not been done in other studies.

Major Compulsory Revisions

The authors describe the generation of an in house ELISA assays using E. histolytica trophozoite lysates (amebic proteins and EhLPPG). This is used to compare the immune response to both E. histolytica and E. dispar infections. No information is however provided to asses the accuracy of measuring the immune response to E. dispar using a E. histolytica trophozoite lysates. While proteins in these species are similar they are not identical. The authors should include supplemental data either demonstrating equivalence or the correction factor applied

Minor Essential Revisions

Abstract :- spelling correct cohorte to cohort
Figure 1 X axis correct IgGA to IgA

Discretionary Revisions

Line 375 remove "about" E. histolytica infection decides the outcome..

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests