Reviewer's report

Title: Divergent cerebrospinal fluid cytokine network induced by non-viral and different viral infections on the central nervous system.

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Reviewer: Kwang-Sik Kim

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The authors described cytokine profiles in CSF from patients with viral vs non-viral meningoencephalitis. Non-infectious etiology was defined as negative CSF PCR for selective viruses (in addition to negative CSF bacterial cultures), but validity of this definition remains unclear. Many patients with presumed viral meningoencephalitis have negative CSF PCR for selective viruses and investigation of infectious etiology for those patients remains a challenge. It is, therefore, not surprising to see overlaps in CSF chemistry, cell counts and cytokines between their virus positive and negative groups.