Reviewer's report

Title: Elevated Inflammatory Cytokines In Aqueous Cytokine Profile in HIV-1 Infected Patients With Cataracts in Uganda

Version: 0 Date: 03 Jul 2017

Reviewer: Yi Lu

Reviewer's report:

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The manuscript studied the cytokines distribution in aqueous humor in HIV infected cataract patients. The work is meaningful and interesting. However, there were some critical questions in the paper.

Major questions:

1. Methods: There were the uveitis patients both in case group and control group. These uveitis cases should be deleted in statistics because it could also cause elevated inflammatory aqueous cytokine levels without development of cataracts and cause statistical basis.

2. Why the authors chose these 8 cytokines for examination? Please explain this in introduction.

3. Result: What's the result from table 3? Why there is no word explanation or discussion about it?

4. What's the valuable result of the manuscript? Please state in explicit sentences in the first paragraph of the discussion part.

5. Discussion part: the authors just discussed the IL-10 in "IL-10, IFN-g, and TNF-a" part. It's not appropriate and should be revised.
Minor question:

6. Introduction: "There is limited published information about the role of these intra ocular inflammatory processes in early development of cataracts among HIV infected individuals in sub-Saharan Africa" is not appropriate here as the authors did not answer the question, either. The manuscript just studied the association of these intra ocular inflammatory with cataract.

7. Figure 1 repeated with Table 1. Please delete one and mark the P values in the figure.

Table 1 and Table 2 should be exchanged because table 1 deals with the baselines of two groups.

8. Abstract: please delete the background, and rewrite the purpose and method part with concise sentences. What's more, please enrich the result part.

Many of the sentences of the abstract were exactly the same as that in the manuscript. Please revise the abstract with concise words.

9. What's the manufacturer's information of the cytokines assay kits? Please mark it in the method part.

10. Table 3, category 3. The authors can delete the sub-table since there is no significant cytokine here. Please state "there is no significant difference in each cytokine when we compare stage I, II and Stage III and IV.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

No

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes
Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

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Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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