Reviewer's report

Title: Mitogen-stimulated cell proliferation and cytokine production in major depressive disorder patients

Version: 2 Date: 13 Jun 2018

Reviewer: Gregory Freund

Reviewer's report:

While understanding mechanistically the link between depression and immunity is significant, this manuscript appears to be predominately descriptive in nature. In addition, Andrew Miller's review entitled: "Depression and Immunity: A Role for T cells?" in BBI in 2010 (PMCID: PMC2787959), indicates that much of the current work presented is somewhat established. This work would be markedly strengthened by presenting data on why depression-associated immune dysregulation occurs. In addition, the techniques used seem under-powered relative to the conclusions, as this line from the discussion examples: "Mitogen LPS and PHA stimulating assay can discover the whole immune response and proliferation levels of the B and T lymphocyte."

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

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
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Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
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No

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I am able to assess the statistics
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Needs some language corrections before being published

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