Reviewer’s report

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

Version: 3 Date: 04 Sep 2018

Reviewer: Gregory Freund

Reviewer's report:

Q1: As indicated in the previous review, this work "would be markedly strengthened by presenting data on why depression-associated immune dysregulation occurs". Unfortunately, no new experimentation was included.

Q2: While searching for diagnostic biomarkers for MDD and other mental illnesses that are minimally invasive is of value, there is no compelling evidence presented that the tests described have the required specificity. Data showing that said tests in some combination demonstrated diagnostic accuracy, would be an important and valuable finding.

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?
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
Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Needs some language corrections before being published

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