Reviewer's report

Title: Systemic autoimmune disease in asbestosis rapidly responding to anti-interleukin-1beta antibody canakinumab

Version: 2 Date: 16 February 2015

Reviewer: charles dinarello

Reviewer's report:

Lungs are full of IL-1alpha. Why did you not measure IL-1alpha. See recent papers on a monoclonal to human IL1alpha and discuss how anti-IL-1beta may influence the release of IL-1alpha from Type II lung epithelial cells. IL-1 alpha needs to be discussed and also why anakinra was not used.

Level of interest: An exceptional article

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.