Reviewer's report

Title: Efficacy and safety of the human anti-IL-1beta monoclonal antibody canakinumab in rheumatoid arthritis: results of a 12-week, phase II, dose-finding study

Version: 4 Date: 11 June 2011

Reviewer: Peter Taylor

Reviewer's report:

This interesting study reports the findings of a double blind, placebo-controlled, parallel group study investigating the effects of a mAb with specificity for IL-1 beta in patients with active RA despite methotrexate therapy. The puzzling absence of a dose response deserves further investigation in future studies.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

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

statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests