Reviewer’s report

Title: Evaluation of the potential pleotropic role of AGT polymorphism in atherosclerosis

Version: 1 Date: 31 August 2012

Reviewer: ABOUD NESRINE

Reviewer’s report:

Dear Colleague,

After reviewing the manuscript, I confirm that the question posed by the authors was well defined, the methods were appropriate and well described, the data were sound and the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition. In addition, the discussion and conclusions were well balanced and adequately supported by the data and limitations of the work were clearly stated. Also the authors clearly acknowledged any work upon which they were building, both published and unpublished and the title and the abstract accurately convey what has been found. Finally the writing is acceptable. However, I still have some comments that I will detail below in three categories:

Discretionary Revisions:
I remarked that the population studied isn’t matched in sex and age. In spite of these two factors are two risk factors of the cardiovascular disease and can cause a way of variation.

Also, the cardiovascular diseases are multifactorial and in this work the authors were interested only in the genetic effect without considering the interaction gene environment which can influence the results.

Minor Essential Revisions:

The authors should verify the references, in some of them there is no year and / or the volume and / or the pages of the publication.

Major Compulsory Revisions:

The authors should describe the studied polymorphisms (insertion, deletion, substitution....) in the introduction and should detail more the description of the molecular mechanism involved which will explain the association of certain SNPs with the disease (the effect on the protein in question, on the renin angiotensin system) in the discussion.

Kind regards,
Dr. Nesrine Abboud

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable
Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests