Reviewer's report

Title: Lipids and carotid plaque in the Northern Manhattan Study (NOMAS)

Version: 1 Date: 4 August 2009

Reviewer: Pierre-Jean Touboul

Reviewer's report:

This manuscript is extremely interesting as it contributes strongly to confirm the relationship between increased LDL and plaque prevalence. However some issues must be raised.

Plaque definition: reference for this definition has to be added. The definition chosen may have been responsible for an under or overestimation of the plaque prevalence.

Adding an encroaching of 0.5mm or a maximal intima to adventitia thickness = or > to 1.5mm might have been stronger definitions (Mannheim Consensus) that could be added in the discussion.

Out of these comments I congratulate the authors for their nice study.

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 I have no competing interests