Reviewer’s report

Title: Prevalence of Genetic Polymorphisms in the Promoter Region of the Alpha-1 Antitrypsin (SERPINA1) Gene in Chronic Liver Disease: a Case Control Study

Version: 3 Date: 18 December 2009

Reviewer: Sally Chappell

Reviewer’s report:

The authors have addressed the majority of comments raised during the review process. The replacement of table 2 is a vast improvement on the previous version, although I would still like to see a little more detail on how the diplotype/haplotypes were constructed. Was a software package (eg HPlus, Haploview, Unphased) used for this analysis? If so, more detail needs to be given. Where individuals are either homozygous at all of the polymorphic sites, or only heterozygous at one site, it is straightforward to determine the haplotypes. However, this is more difficult with heterozygosity at 2 or more sites, and I would be interested to know how this was done. Values for linkage disequilibrium ($r^2$) would also be of interest, and could be added here for the controls and cases separately.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

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