Reviewer’s report

Title: Combined effect of regulatory polymorphisms on transcription of UGT1A1 as a cause of Gilbert syndrome

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Reviewer: Ching-Shan Huang

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1. Are all the SNPs found in the subjects suffering from Gilbert syndrome also observed in the normal controls? If the answer is yes, “mutation” should be converted to “variation” at all.

2. Page 15: “Our results for A(TA)7TAA and c.-3275T>G are consistent with the fact that some homozygotes with A(TA)7TAA do not suffer from Gilbert syndrome [27,28], and that there are patients with homozygous c.-3275T>G but without A(TA)7TAA [25].” The following article may be considered to be cited as an additional reference: Huang YY, Huang MJ, Yang SS, Teng HC, Huang CS: Variations in the UDP- glucuronosyltransferase 1A1 gene for the development of unconjugated hyperbilirubinemia in Taiwanese. Pharmacogenomics 2008, 9:1229-1235.

3. Page 16: “Our study shows that -3275T>G and the ten polymorphisms detected in the patients are not pppless important in their effect on transcription than A(TA)7TAA, and that Gilbert syndrome is likely to be caused by the combined effects of these polymorphisms.” Is “pppless” a mistake? Would it be “less”?

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