Reviewer's report

Title: Association between Helicobacter pylori cagA-related genes and clinical outcomes in Colombia and Japan

Version: 2 Date: 15 August 2011

Reviewer: Hossein Dabiri

Reviewer's report:

- Major Compulsory Revisions
  There is no need to major revision.

- Minor Essential Revisions
  1- Page 6, line 6: each deoxynucleotide concentration must be written in millimolar not Micro liter (µL)
  2- Page 6, line 8: regarding the product size of used primers are short (table 1), thereby the PCR program as 30 cycles; 5 min at 94°C, 30 sec and 5 min at 72°C seems uncommon and must be checked.
  3-page 6 and 7: In some cases, the standard material sources addressing (company, county) is not considered as the name of country is missed.
  4- In case of table 2, since the references of selected genes have given in the context, the table2 is no longer mandatory.
  5- In case of the table 4 and 5, P value should be calculated for each row.
  6- Page 9, paragraph2, in result section under subtitle of “The association between candidate genes and clinical outcomes” only two genes (jhp0045, jhp0046) of four studied genes (hp0967, jhp0045, jhp0046 and jhp0951) have been considered.
  7- Page 9, under subtitle of “The association between candidate genes and clinical outcomes”: it is better to present each country result separately and more clearly.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest 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.