Reviewer's report

Title: Multi-susceptibility genes associated with the risk of the development stages of esophageal squamous cell cancer in Feicheng County

Version: 2 Date: 9 April 2011

Reviewer: Fumiaki Tanaka

Reviewer's report:

COMMENTS

The authors report in this manuscript that they examined that the association of the ALDH2 and MTHFR polymorphisms is important in carcinogenesis of ESC in Feicheng County, China.

The authors made some important changes following reviewers' comments. This manuscript contains potentially interesting facts that could be utilized for understanding the mechanisms of the carcinogenesis of esophageal cancer in Feicheng County, China. However, this reviewer need to raise concerns listed below.

Major concerns:

1. As I mentioned in the previous review, conducting the analysis of polymorphisms of toward carcinogenesis, the number of this study was too small to obtain the conclusion. More than thousand patients and healthy controls would be needed. This paper indicated just a sample of a county in China.

2. Page 14, the first paragraph, “This finding will be of great benefit to ~”. Which country can pay for detecting ESC candidate in the world? This sentence needs be deleted or changed.

3. Page 12, line 8-9, This sentence is wrong. Caucasians predominantly have ALDH2*1.

Minor concerns:

1. Some words are not suitable for scientific manuscript. Page 4- line 11, “excellent”, page 11-line 14, “that should be emphasized”, page 14-line 6, “great” and so on,

2. Page 14, last paragraph, This paragraph has no informative information regarding this article.

Level of interest: An article of limited interest

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.
Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests