Reviewer's report

Title: Influence of HRH2 promoter polymorphism on aberrant DNA methylation of DAPK and CDH1 in the gastric epithelium

Version: 2 Date: 1 October 2012

Reviewer: Lasse Sommer Kristensen

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Major Compulsory Revisions
As pointed out in my previous report the authors found that the GG homozygote displayed no significant risk for DAPK methylation in subjects with GC (Table 4). The same was also true for CDH1 (Table 5). Nevertheless, this is not mentioned in the abstract or in the conclusion. No data was provided to support a functional role of the methylation of the genes, which were detected using a non-quantitative method. In addition, no data was provided to show a functional role of the SNP. Finally, only non-neoplastic tissue was included in the study, and the authors did not investigate whether the methylation in these tissues reflect the methylation in neoplastic cells from the same patients.

Minor Essential revisions
There are still some sentences and typos which need to be corrected. For instance, page 10, line 4 ("bisulfite-modification" should be "bisulftite-modification"), page 10 line 6 ("1 minutes" should be "1 minute"), and page 18, line 17 ("almost GC patients" should be "almost all GC patients").

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

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

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