Reviewer’s report

Title: Association between PPARGC1A polymorphisms and the occurrence of nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD)

Version: 1 Date: 3 February 2008

Reviewer: Brian N Finck

Reviewer’s report:

Minor Essential Revisions:
The conclusion made in last sentence of the abstract is too strong. No evidence that these SNPs alter PGC-1a expression or activity is presented. Also, if activity is altered, would increasing or decreasing PGC-1a be beneficial.

The proper name is "peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor".

Discretionary Revisions:
A more in depth introduction of PGC-1a is warranted for readers that are not familiar with the topic. Much is known about the metabolic effects of PGC-1a in the liver and at least some of these should be listed.

It would be helpful to provide additional information regarding the location of the SNPs of significance. Are the SNPs coding, non-coding, or in the promoter? Although this could be determined with some effort by the reader, it would aid readability to provide the information in the text.

What next?: Accept after minor essential revisions

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: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:
I declare that I have no competing interests.