Reviewer's report

Title: Selenoprotein S (SEPS1) gene -105G>A promoter polymorphism influences the susceptibility to gastric cancer in the Japanese population

Version: 3 Date: 17 November 2008

Reviewer: Charles Foster

Reviewer's report:

Major Compulsory Revisions: None

Minor Essential Revisions:
page 8. "Enrolled subjects were undergone upper gastrointestinal endoscopy to check for gastric cancer followed by a barium X-ray examination as a health check or for the complaint of abdominal symptoms."

Consider: "Enrolled subjects were screened for gastric cancer by upper gastrointestinal endoscopy followed by a barium X-ray examination."

page 14. "In previous reports, it was suggested that the decreased concentrations of selenium was the gastric cancer risk. And in experimental study, high selenium diet inhibited the H. pylori growth in Guinea pig. Nutrition effect of selenium, however, has not been defined for prevention of the development of precancerous lesions of gastric cancer so far."

Consider: "Although low selenium status has been associated with risk of human gastric cancer, and high selenium diets inhibit the growth of H. pylori in Guinea pigs, human clinical trials have failed to demonstrate a benefit for selenium supplements in the prevention of precancerous gastric lesions."

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

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.