Reviewer's report

Title: Four novel mutations in the lactase gene (LCT) underlying congenital lactase deficiency (CLD)

Version: 2 Date: 16 September 2008

Reviewer: Songbin Fu

Reviewer's report:

The authors had improved the manuscript in some aspects, while there are still some questions.

Major Compulsory Revisions

1. There were five patients with CLD in their study, in which one was Italian; two were Trukese while the authors did not introduce the origins of the other two patients. There were two Trukese patients while there were no Trukese who were involved in the control subjects.

2. In the section of results, the authors wrote the genotype of the parents of the patient while they did not mention the parents in the methods section.

3. The results of case 2 were too obscure to understand.

4. Kuokkanen M had identified the mutations underlie CLD in Finnish families in 2006, why did the author say this study is the first report of CLD mutations in patients living on continental Europe?

5. There are still so many long sentences, such as some in the section of abstract and discussion, they are difficult for the reader to understand.

Minor Compulsory Revisions

There are some grammar errors in the manuscript, such as in the second line of P4 “where” should be “which”.

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