Reviewer's report

**Title:** Comparing human papillomavirus prevalence in women with normal cytology and invasive cervical cancer to rank genotypes according to their oncogenic potential: A meta-analysis of observational studies

**Version:** 1  **Date:** 13 June 2013

**Reviewer:** Peng Guan

**Reviewer's report:**

This article is of major public health interest for the prevention of invasive cervical cancer. The methodology is acceptable to address the issues, and it would be better that the following things could be explained or modified.

Minor:
1. As different HPV typing methods have different typing coverage, then uncharacterized HPV X varied in the included studies. The authors can first describe the distribution of HPV X in the studies, and exclude it in the ranking.
2. It is not clear that when considering potential sources of heterogeneity due to geographical area, why ‘Asia versus all other continents’.

**Level of interest:** An article of importance in its field

**Quality of written English:** Acceptable

**Statistical review:** Yes, and I have assessed the statistics in my report.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.